# THE INDEPENDENT

# Identity of drugs case minister 'to be revealed within days'

The great secret which has been the key talking point at New Year: parties - the identity of "Cabinet minister X" could be settled within days. Colin Brown and Michael Streeter say the Government is keen to get it out in the open before Parliament

The son of "Cabinet Minister X" who was accused of drugdealing could be let off by the police with a caution within the next few days, freeing the minister to reveal his identity before the Commons returns from the New Year recess.

Colleagues of the minister, whose identity has been an open secret around Whitehall and the subject of New Year speculation across Britain, believe it is vital that the air is cleared before he is named under the cover of parliamentary privilege.

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It is feared that a rebel Labour backbencher or an op-Comm in privilege to name the mir - or by tahling a Commons election or challenging the Prime Minister at Question Time about his position, unless he reveals his identity next

. The: Government believes the issue will be settled qoickh if the minister is allowed pubhely to defen his position, and his actions in taking his son to a police station after the boy was accused of selling £10-worth of cannabis to a reporter in a pub.

The minister's son is expected to be cautioned by the police and let off with a warning because of lack of evidence. Another boy who allegedly supplied the drug may be cautioned, and no action taken against the Daily Mirror journalist, Dawn Alford.

That could enable the Cabinet minister to reveal his identity without heing beld in contempl of court for identifying the boy. Ministers believe that the identity of their colleague should be disclosed to avoid any charge in the Commons of an aftempt at a cover-

Mr X has made it clear that he wants to disclose his iden-

tity but has been following legal advice that it was impossi-ble for him to do so until the charges against his son have

The minister, who spent New Year with his family at a house in the country, was last night back in London to hear about how one of his protection officers dealt with a fracas at a neighbour's house. The Independent has learned that a police officer stationed outside Mr X's home on New Year's Eve stopped a fight at a nearby house where gatecrashers attempted to disrupt a New Year

Both the minister and his family have been feeling the intense pressure surrounding the speculation about his identity, but sources close to him last night said there was no suggestion that he would switch portfolios or resign.

The minister and his family have been under a lot of pressure, but they are bearing up. He is in a ridiculous position. But the fact is, he is prevented from saying anything by law. If that position changed, and there was no legal bar to position party MP will use him doing so, it would all become clear.

> "He feels at the end of the day people will respect him for what he has done. He had a statement ready to release before he went down to the nick with the lad, but the lawyers, the son's solicitor and the Attorney-General all said you cannot do that," said the source.

> The apparent recommendation by Scotland Yard that there should be no prosecution is based on concerns about being able to prove in court the charge of unlawful supply.

The two criteria by which prosecutors judge every case is whether first there is sufficient evidence to have a good chance of conviction, and secondly, whether it is in the public interest to go ahead with the case.

If there is sufficient evidence in a case of allegedly supplying drugs, even when it concerns small amounts, such as here, the prosecution will normally go ahead - unlike possession of small amounts, when a police caution is a common option. This suggests that the police in the minister's son's case, who have interviewed both the youth and Ms Alford, who bought the drugs, are unhappy about conflicts in the evidence.

You might think this Roman is stark raving mad.



But no. It's New Year's Day, the whole world over





First wave: An Italian dives into the Tiber from Rome's Cavour Bridge (top) and bather flee the sea at Scheveningen beach in The Netherlands (above left) and Whitley Bay in North-east England Photographs Luciano del Castillo:EPA, Serge Ligtenberg/AR, Owen Humphreys/PA

# INSIDE TODAY



'Gagging for it might not be a Henry James phrase, but it's flashed in neon over every character' FILM/15

PLUS **Sports** Calendar 98

# TODAY'S NEWS

#### Drugs tsar plans early education

Britain's new drugs "tsar" has told The Independent, in his first full interview since taking the job, that children as young as four should be taught about the dangers of narcotics. Keith Hellawell also says is particularly concerned ab dealers who deliberately lure young people into addiction by selling cheap heroin. Page 5

#### Innocence lost

A survey of more than 900 teenagers found that more than half the girls wish they had waited longer before losing their virginity. with many feeling they were pressed into it against their will. Among both sexes, curlousity was the most common reason given for having sex for the first time. Page 3

# Loyalists threaten more revenge killings

The New Year's Eve attack on a Belfast pub left one man dead, five injured and Ulster's damaged peace process balancing precariously on the precipice of sectarian strife. Louise Jury and Colin Brown report on the latest threat to the peace talks.

The Loyalist Volunteer Force last night claimed responsibility for the murder of 31-yearold Eddie Treanor in a second retaliatory strike after the Maze killing of their leader. And

their statement warned; "This is not the end."

The attack by two masked men in the packed Clifton Tavern in a Catholic area of North Belfast, shortly after upm on Wednesday night, intensified the pressure on the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. Mo Mowlam, to offer a concession to the loyalists. They are demanding a full public inquiry into the INLA assassination of Billy Wright inside the high-security Maze prison.

Billy Hutchinson, leader of the Progressive Unionist Party. which is involved in the crossparty peace talks, wamed that his party would pull out before the talks recommence on 12

January, unless Ms Mowlam made concessions to the Loyalists. He said he wanted concessions to be addressed at a meeting between the PUP and

Irish ministers next Wednesday. Demands for a public inquiry were put to Ms Mowlam by the Ulster Unionist leader. David Trimble, at an angry meeting hours before the killing. She is considering the appeal and now might find the pressure for some concession to the loyalists too great to resist.

The pressure was intensified hy the Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary. Andrew Mackay, who called for the planned internal inquiry into security at the Maze to he started imme-

diately and for its remit to he widened.

The PUP is one of the parties which has expressed concern that the process has not been "even-handed" between Hutchinson said that problem had to be addressed, "It would

republicans will now feel oblig- ty which has links to the UVF. ed to retaliate for the two loy- admitted there were people alist murders since Billy Wright was killed on Saturday. The Lovalist Volunteer Force car- Radio 4's Today programme, he ried out an attack on a crowd- hlamed the British Govern-

Wright's death, killing doorman Seamus Dillon, 45. It claimed responsibility for that attack.

The threat to the peace

process is also increased by the risk that the lovalist ceasefire Unionists and republicans. Mr could end. Reports in Belfast suggest that when the prisoners released from the Maze for he my opinion that if they don't Christmas return to prison todeal with that on 12 January, the day, the UDA immates will vote PUP will be missing from the on whether to abandon the ceasefire. David Ervine, of the Fears are growing that the Ulster Progressive Unionist parwho wanted the ceasefire to end.

In an interview with BBC

seeing confidence building measures, concessions, doled out like sweeties, outside the process. They should be housed within the process.

John Hume, the SDLP leader, said the object of the latest killings was to derail the talks. "That should strengthen the will not only of all the political parties but of the vast majority of people not to be knocked off course and to remain firmly committed to reaching agreement in a totally peaceful atmosphere."

Gerry Kelly, who is on the Sinn Fcin team in the multi-party talks, condemned the pub attack, saying. The peace ed hotel within hours of ment. "At the moment we're process is shattered."

TELEVISION Page 23 CROSSIVORDS Pages 22, 24 WENTHER Page 2

Web address: http://www. independent couk



SEE 17. BE AMAZED. AND THEN SEE IT AGAIN. TAVORE THE BISECTOR OF RODOCOP AND TOTAL RECALL STARTS TODAY AT CINEMAS ACROSS THE

# **COLUMN ONE**

# Eyes down for great staff lootery draw

Lots of companies carry out spot checks to make sure their staff are not going bome with the profits in their pockets. Now one chain of stores has decided to go a step further and introduce an element of fun into the process. Instead of the dull old routine of lining up to have their bags checked.

staff will be able to pick coloured balls out of a hag to determine which lucky person will be the subject of a random search before going home. Yes, it's the National Lootery and it could be you.

The searches were introduced at Hobby Craft toy and model superstores nationwide yesterday and will be carried ont by security staff or man-

Once the store has closed for the day, staff will be required to form an orderly queue as the balls are selected one by one. A green ball allows the employee to go straight home without undergoing a search, a yellow one means an on the spot bag check, and red hits the jackpot - a search of the person's locker, bag and car.

The scheme was revealed to staff in an internal memo, which while stressing there was "no problem in this store" read: "We have been requested by head office to carry out random searches. As I do not wish to embarrass any member of staff by singling them out I have decided that we should work the following system." Once the ball has been selected and the area of the search decided.

the duty manager then has the choice of searching either all or part of The memo ends on the somewhat hopeful note: "I hope that I can rely on your co-operation to make this as painless for everyone as possible."

Leader, letters

Comment

**Obituaries** 

Crosswords

**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING** 

Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK

Business

12, 13

spapers in the first half of 1997.

Kate Watson-Smyth

20-24

# Search for mother who abandoned baby

Mr Brown said no commercial venture could preserve her properly.

Shipping news: John Brown, 96, who led the design team at the Clyde yard that built the royal

yacht Britannia in the 1950s, yesterday called for her to be scuttled to bring her life to a dignified end. The Government is considering two bids to base the yacht in Manchester or Edinburgh but

Police yesterday issued an appeal for help to find a been found fit and healthy, and that's good news for mother who abandoned a new-born baby boy on New Year's Eve.

PEOPLE

The child is just three days old and was discovered lying on a pavement in an alleyway behind garages in Leyton, east London. Doctors who are caring for the baby at Whipps Cross Hospital in east London, dubbed bim "Robert Alan" after the two ambulancemen who picked him up.

The infant, who is mixed race, was wrapped in a patterned shawl and dressed only in a pale green sleep suit. He still had a plastic yellow umhilical clip attached, which police believe has come from a tocal hospital or midwife.

They issued an urgent appeal for the mother to come forward or anyone who knew her to contact

Detective Inspector Phil Jones, of Leyton CID. said: "We are anxious to reunite the baby with its needs his mum. Let us make this a happy New Year mother. I am particularly pleased that the bahy bas for both mother and child hy reuniting them."

the New Year.

We have checked all hospitals in the area in a bid to trace the mother but to no avail. We believe the baby could have been born in a hospital or by a midwife at home as the clip used to de the umbilical cord was a type only available to medical staff."

The baby, who weighs 7lb 11oz, was heard crying hy a man on his way to buy a fottery ticket. Dr Iain Macintosh of Whipps Cross Hospital said: "It could he that the haby was born in a hospital or

by medical staff at home. The child was in good condition, he was relatively warm and had probably only heen nut in the cold for about balf an hour. It seems he had been well cared for.

"It is vital that the haby's mother comes forward and I am worried about her mental state."

Mr Jones said: "This is a beautiful baby boy who

# UPDATE

#### HEALTH

#### NHS staff shortages hit 10,000

The NHS is short of nearly 10,000 doctors and nurses, the Liberal Democrats said yesterday. Dr Evan Harris, the party's health spokesman, said the figures are based on Department of Health releases and figures gathered by the House of Commons library. He claimed that in nine months in office, the Government had "not lifted a finger ro fill these gaping holes in NHS staff shortages".

According to his findings, the NHS is short of 1,600 bospital doctors, more than 8,000 nurses, and there are nearly 1,000 GP vacancies. Cancelled operations also rose by 5 per cent between April and Septemher. Dr Harris said: "These new figures show that the NHS is facing a staffing crisis this winter. With nearly 10,000 doctors and nurses missing from wards, a record number of operations have been cancelled."

The Liberal Democrat spokesman said Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, tried to paint a picture of cooperating within the NHS and treatment for all "but without the staff he is wasting his breath".

The Liberal Democrats want an increase in the number of medical and nursing students and public funding to pay for them, plus incentives for medical graduates to stay in the NHS and for students to go into nursing.

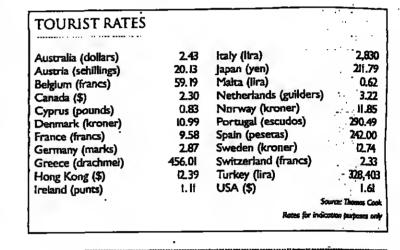
Photograph: PA

#### Tests show breast milk is best

Babies who are hreast fed and not given solid food too early turn out leaner, less prone to lung problems and with lower blood pressure, says research published yesterday in the British Medical Journal. The study of 545 children aged six to 10 in Dundee strongly confirmed the health benefits of mother's milk and infant feeding guidelines.

The research team, led by Dr Stewart Forsyth at Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee, found the probability of having respiratory illness was 17 per cent for children who were exclusively breast fed for at least 15 weeks. The risk rose to 32.2 per cent for wholly bottle fed babies. Solid feeding before 15 weeks was associated with an increased likelihood of wheeze in childhood and greater body fat and weight.

Current guidelines recommend that babies are exclusively breast fed for the first four months of life.



ZITS

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by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman 7.30 FOR 8

by Chris Priestley



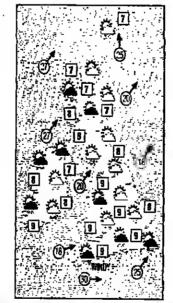


# WINTER SALE NOW ON

TOTTENHAM CRT RO WI . KINGS RD SW3 . TUNSGATE GUILDFORO

## WEATHER

The British Isles, noon today



General summary and outlook: North-east Scotland will start cloudy with rain, but the wet weather will become confined to the Northern Isles. The rest of Scotland and much of England and Wales will start overcast and misty with some pockels of thick fog and local drizzle. Many places will stay cloudy but it should brighten up a shade, although in one or two spots the early fog may be reluctant to clear. In the south-west of England and south Wales a scattering of showers will develop. heavy in places.

It will stay reasonably mild with little or no overnight frost. More fog is likely on Sunday morning. This will slowly lift to leave a few sunny spells here and there, but it will remain on the cloudy side with a lew showers in the west. Late in the day outbreaks of rain will reach south-west England, and this wet weather will extend slowly north-east on Monday. although much of Scotland and eastern England

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Somerset, M5 J22-23 Highbridge to Bridge-water, Major roadworks due to bridge repairs. A 3 mile controllow is in place, Until 31st

West Midlands, M6.16 Birmingham. Long-term

roadworks. Northbound entry slip to the Mis North closed at Salkord Circus. Diversions in

West Yorkshire, M1 J43-J42 Stourton to Lott-

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to 8.46 to 8.04

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London	to to	8.04 8.23 8.29	London	to to
London, A1 between Watton cus and Fiveways Corner C to two tartes for long term of May 1998.	AA Roadwa	tch		

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Greater London, M1, between J6-J5. Watlord area. Roadworks and a contration, with off peak and overnight lane and carrageway closures. A 50mph speed limit is also in place Until West Yorkshire, M1 J43-J42 Slourton to Lofthouse (MG2). A contrallow and a 50mph speed limit are in place. Until 13th July 1998.

15.55

.16.03 to

# Air quality Yesterday's read

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London	Moderate	Go
S England	Moderate	Go
Wales	Moderate	Go
C England	Moderate	Go
N England	Moderate	Go
Scotland	Good	Go
N Ireland	Good	M

house (M52) Contrallow and speed limit are in place (Until Jan 21 1993). Greater Manchester, A56 Old Trafford Road-works, Until 19th January 1998.

London, A3211 Glackhars Linderpass, Con-traflow Linds 15th April 1998. Bristol, M5 J18-19. Controllow in operation across the Avanmouth Bridge with a 50mph speed limit. Regular rush-hour delays. Until 1st January 1999.

Atlantic chart, noon today

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High tides

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Apology: Due to a production problem information in yesterday's weather panel was reproduced in error from an earlier date.

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GP vacancies Can-

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by Chris Prestley

# Curse of the Kennedys claims its latest victim

Yet again, tragedy has struck at America's version of royalty, with the death in a skiing accident in Colorado of Michael Kennedy, son of the assassinated Senator Robert Kennedy. Rupert Comwell looks at a family beset by fame and disaster in equal measure

If his surname had been Jones or Brown, his passing would have been unremarked just another skier who lost control, crashing into a tree on Wednesday as he hartled down a slope at Aspen Mountain, injuring himself fatally. Not though if that surname belongs to a family called Kennedy. As in John F Kennedy. Then you are victim of The Curse, paying the ultimate price for hubris past.

The story goes back almost 60 years, when Joseph Kennedy Senior, grandson of Irish immigrants, philanderer, tycoon, bootlegger and hacker of Franklin Roosevelt, realised his own political ambitions had been wrecked by his readiness to appease Hitler while ambassador to London. Instead he dedicated all his might and means, fair and foul, to make one of his children president. Joe would succeed, but at a price he could not imagine.

Already in 1941 his daughter Rosemary had been placed in a mental home after a failed lobotomy. But worse would follow in 1944 when Joseph Jr, the apple of his father's eye and repository of his vicarious ambition, was killed in a plane crash while serving in Britain with the US Air Force. Another daughter, Kathleen, would die in France in another air crash in 1948. But the mantle of expectation had passed to his second son, John, who would use his own charm and ruthlessness - and his father's money and strings - to make it to the White House in 1961. But on 22 November 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald struck in Dallas.

Less than five years later, half paralysed by an earlier stroke, Joe would watch a third son die, when Robert was shot dead in a Los Angeles hotel on 4 Jnne 1968, just as he won the California Democratic primary to place the presidency firmly in his sights. That August, his remaining son Edward, 35-year-old Massachusetts senator, sat in Chicago with his advisers on the eve of the 'Another son, Robert Jr. was caught with Democratic convention, pondering whether to use the outpouring of sympathy David, died of a drug overdose in 1984.



Michael Kennedy (second right) flanked by members of his family at a tribute in 1992 to Robert, his father who was assassinated in 1968 Photograph: Amy Sancetta

to make a bid for the nomination himself. No, they decided; wait for 1972, or hetter still 1976. But The Curse would not be denied. The very next year Teddy drove a car off a hridge on the island of Chap-

paquiddick, Massachusetts, and ran from the scene as his staffworker Mary Jo Kopechne was drowned. His hopes of the White House were gone, and the first hig dent was made in America's hitherto unquestioning romance with the Kennedys. Thereafter the misfortunes would continue. But increasingly they would be self-inflicted. For many younger Kennedys, uncarned celebrity and comparisons with political titans past were burdens too heavy to bear.

In 1973, Teddy's son Edward lost a leg because of cancer. That same year, Robert's son Joe was involved in a car accident which left a female passenger paralysed for life. drugs while a teenager, while yet another,

The episodes merely added credibility to the less flattering portrait of the earlier Kennedys emerging in a string of books and personal memoirs. These dwelt not on the glitz of Camelot, hut the consuming Kennedy lusts for power and sex, and their congenital disregard for women. By 1986, Edward's son Patrick was undergoing

treatment for cocaine addiction. In 1991

his nephew William Kennedy Smith went year-old babysitter and his own admission on trial for rape. William was acquitted, but not before revelations of drinking sessions with his uncle that cemented Teddy's image as an alcohol-drenched lecher.

And thus to Michael Kennedy, who until last year was regarded as a rising political star in his own right. Then came allegations of an affair with the family's 14-

#### AMERICA'S TRAGIC DYNASTY

JOSEPH P. KENNEDY JR.: Died in plane crash during the Second World War, aged 29. KATHLEEN KENNEDY: Married William John Robert Cavendish, the Marquess of Hartington. She later died in a plane crash, aged 28.

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, JR.: Assassinated in Dallas on 22 Nov 1963, aged 46. ROBERT F. KENNEDY: Assassinated in June 1968, aged 43.

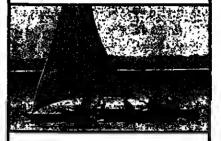
DAVID KENNEDY: Son of Robert, died in 1984 of a drug overdose in a hotel after being thrown out of the family holiday home at Palm Beach.

MICHAEL KENNEDY: Gained notoriety for an alleged 1996 affair with his family's babysitter, was killed in a skiing accident on New Years's Eve. He was 39.

**TOMORROW** 

IN THE MAGAZINE

If it's January it must be The Outback ... top writers on 12 top destinations



TIME OUT

The lure of Zanzibar, Redford's ski heaven

**NEXT WEEK** 

The Century in photographs From Monday for 98 days in The Eye, 98 years of historic pictures

**Lunch with** Conran for only £10

# Peer-group pressure and why most women regret saying yes to teenage sex

the first time do so reluctantly, under duress, because they do not have the will to resist. Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, examines a study which suggests most women regret the early loss

of their virginity.

disappointing - but that is almost the only point about it on which girls and boys agree.

A study of more than 900 teenagers found widely diverging perceptions between the sexes of how their first sexual encounter had occurred. Pressure from men, curiosity and drink push many young women into doing what they later regret.

Women were more likely to report heing forced - one in 14 of the total sample rising to one in four of those under 14 and less likely to say that they were "equally

than half the women thought they should have waited longer before losing their virginity. Women were more likely than men to say they were "carried away by their feelings" as the reason for having sex, while men were more likely to say they wanted to lose

Women who had their first experience of intercourse when under 16 said the main reason was that most people of their age were doing it. Most of these had sex with an older boy hut for all age groups, when

time, there was less discrepancy between the sexes about the willingness with which the encounter was entered into.

The study, conducted in New Zealand and published in the British Medical Journal echoes the findings of previous British research. An Economic and Science Research Council study in 1990 found many girls who reported having been under pressure to have sex for a long time who finally submitted, usually when drunk, because they had run out of reasons for resisting.

Many teenage girls having sex for The first sexual experience is invariably willing. Fewer than one in six men but more both partners were having sex for the first. Often the poor quality of their first. I wouldn't be able to handle it." repeat it.

of alcoholism. Now Michael is dead - and

Edward Kennedy surely will not seek a

seventh full Senate term in 2000, when he

will be 68. Robert's son Joseph, self-ap-

pointed standard-bearer of the younger Kennedys, but in truth a pompous Con-

gressional lightweight, has been forced to

withdraw from the state's 1998 Governors

race after woman trouble of his own, JFK's

son John Jr, noted for his looks rather than

his intellect, is one younger Kennedy who

has kept his head. Conceivably he might use

his politico-celebrity magazine George as a

springboard for a political career. But the

pick of the hunch could be Patrick, who has

overcome his cocaine problems to be a sec-

ond-term Congressman for Rhode Island.

But if he goes any higher, it will be thanks

to merit, not myth.

the family's power and prestige is at its low-

est ebb in three-quarters of a century.

In that study, the girls aged from 16 to 21, spoke eloquently of the social pressures on them. One said: "I just thought I'm sick of Mandy who is bonking all the time and me not getting nothing. So I says it's time to do it. He was being really nice and I thought I'll risk him not wanting to see me again. So I did." Another said: "It was a matter of saying 'no' lots and lots of times and then sort of going to sleep because

In the New Zealand study, the researchers from the University of Otago medical school found the average age of first intercourse was 16 in the girls (compared with 17 in Britain) and 17 in the boys. Almost a third of the women who lost their virginity before the age of 16 reported having had a sexually transmitted disease at

some point since. The authors say the results showing most women regret early intercourse "need to be considered by young people themselves".

# 9500

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mise to save you money on your phone bill, or give you back double the difference. FreeCall 0500 500 366.

#### Man questioned over headless body

A man was being questinned last night in connection the death of a teenager whose headless body was found dumped in a hin in Blackpool.

But detectives stressed they were still hunting for whoever might have killed Christopher Hartley, 17, and dismembered his corpse.

The 29-year-nld man being held in Blackpool was arrested in Salford, Greater Manchester, on Wednesday night.

Christopher, from Burnley, Lancashire, had held jubs at the Pleasure Beach funfair and nn stalls in the resort. Tests have so far been unable to show how he died. His head has not been found.

#### Partner charged

The partner of Lisa Blunt, 23, a mother of four whn was reported missing 10 days ago. appeared before magistrates yesterday charged with her murder. Vincent Shilton, 29, of Bestwood, Nottingham, was remanded in custody at a special sitting of the city's Magistrates Court. Police believe a charred body found two days ago in Bulwell, Nnttingham, is that nf Ms Blunt.



# Great January Offers.



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We've got a great range of phones and faxes from top brands such as BT. Binatone. Betacom, Goldstar and Sanyo, and our expert advice will help you make the most of our fantastic offers.

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# Britain 'is spying on EU partners'

ropean partners, a former senior intelligence officer claims.

The officer, whn cannot be identified, told Michael Cockerell, the maker of a television documentary: "Of course, we are all spying on each other. You need belt and braces, collateral on collateral. It would be as vital to know where your European partners are coming from, as it was to know the order of hattle nf Soviet forces during the Cold War."

The documentary, How to be Foreign Secretary, is to be shown no BBC 2 on Sunday evening. Its disclosures will come as a shock to pro-Europeans whn would never have dreamed that Britain is allegedly involved in spionage within the EU.

During the programme, neither the present Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, nor his predecessors, denied suggestions that Britain operates a spy network in Europe.

When Mr Cook himself was asked whether Britain received intelligence from her European partners, he replied: "Nn I'm sorry. I can't talk about that because it is all secret information. We never discuss that."

And Douglas Hurd, now Lord Hurd, who was Foreign Secretary for nearly six years until 1995, was equally reticent. essarily the full story."

Britain spies nn her own Eu- When he was asked the same question, he seemed to be taken aback. He is shown biting his lip and scratching his thigh. "I don't want to go into that. That's operational. I can't, can't, dange dange stsar

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can't get into that," he insisted. Lord Renwick, the former British Ambassador in Washington, was adamant that the French, for instance, would not spy on Britain. But when he was asked whether Britain would spy on them, he replied: "Ah, that's a separate question. You'll have to ask, er, whoever ...

He added: "We have intelligence coverage of all really important negotiations that Britain is involved in Sometimes the information is extremely useful - sometimes you know it all already.

William Waldegrave, a Foreign Office minister under the Tories, said: "The Secret Intelligence Service is very useful to the Foreign Secretary. It can't do miracles hut it does provide a most extraordinary additional source of good information.

What you must ant dn is become James-Bondish about it. And their people are extremely skilful at warning you that not everything that you get on an intercept - or hear on a tane of what some foreign leader said in his bath - is nec-

## Rebel Labour MEPs accuse party machine of dirty tricks

Two rebel Labour MEPs op- him of "backpeddling on a posed to plans in reform the welfare state accused party spin doctors of dirty tricks when it appeared they had defected to the Green Party. Labour sources insisted the President of the European Parliament was convinced Ken Coates and Hugh Kerr had switched groups opening them to immediate expulsion from the party.

were expelled, but Mr Coates wrongly "spun" to the media by Labour as though he had made a decision "of great moment". In fact, he said, he would like to stay in the Socialist Group "for ever and ever" if it would have him, but had been forced by European Parliament bureaucracy to consider taking up an offer from the Greens of "honorary" membership. Currently he "hadn't a clue" which group he now officially helonged to. But Labour sources accused

technicality. It will impress noone". They insisted the President of the European Parliament, Jose Maria Gil-Rohles Gil-Delgado, Labour MEP and Socialist group leader Pauline Green and European Parliamentary Labour Party (EPLP) leader Wayne David were all convinced the two men had left the Socialist group Party sources this week urged and joined the Greens. Departhe two to resign before they ture from the Socialist group would automatically see the

If they had joined the Greens, then the question of whether that has earned them automatic expulsion from Labour itself was not immediately clear. But Labour sources said they were sure pressure would now huild on the two men to leave the party. Mr Coates' local party chairman said he should "do the decent thing" by standing down and fighting a by-election.

## Tanker runs aground

An unladen chemical tanker has gone aground in storm conditions off Torbay, coastguards said yesterday. The 22,000-ton Santa Anna - from Greece, but registered in Panama - dragged an anchor and went aground on the seaward side of Thatcher's Rock, Devon, said Portland coastguards. The vessel, carrying a crew of 29, was still sound and in clean ballast.

The Santa Anna went aground in rough seas and

winds gusting to more than 50mph. She was carrying clean ballast, hut also 200 tonnes of fuel oil and 50 tonnes of lubri-

cating oil. The Marine Pollution Control Unit had been informed and was monitoring the situation, said coastguards. There were no plans yet to take any of the crew off the vessei.

The crew are understood to be Spanish, and the boat had been moored in Torbay.

# DAILY POEM

#### Self portrait with National Lottery winnings after a Roll-Over Jackpot

By Simon Armitage

Numbers, there on the screen, were the self-same: the date of my birth expressed as a sum, the rate of my heart while perfectly calm. my height in feet, my weight to the nearest stone, the teeth in my head, the women I've known.

Stark-bollock-naked except for a hat, sunk to the waist in a slag-heap of cash, I'm rolling a joint with a fifty-pound note to blow nought after nought in rings of smoke.

The artist breaks off from his easel for a piss. A mirror on the wall, face on, gives back me in the pink, in paint, and me in flesh.

It's hard to tell the fraction from the whole, I think: which makes up which, what gives, if that divides by this, or this by that, or that by this.

This week's poems come from the five volumes shortlisted for the 1997 Whitbread Poetry Award. The winner will be announced next Tuesday, 6 January, along with the other Whitbread winners for biography, fiction and first novels. Simon Armitage's poem is taken from his CloudCuckooLand (Faber,

5/DRUG ABUSE

# Teach infants

the danger of drugs, says new 'tsar' atching his thigh -1

Children as young as four should be taught about the dangers of narcotics, says the new drugs "tsar" in his first full interview. Joson Bennetto, Crime Correspondent, hears Keith Hellawell's plans for a new national drugs

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The problem of dealers who deliberate lure young people into addiction by selling them cheap heroin is among the new drugs

strategy for the

millennium.

tsar's most pressing concerns. Keith Hellawell, 55, who takes over the post as UK Anti-drugs Co-ordinator on Monday, also wants more education in schools to tell children about the consequences of taking illegal substances.

He told The Independent: "Some work should start as early as four.

"There are some young people who begin primary school who have a drug addict and regular drug taker in their family. [They] have a substantial knowledge of drugs and their effects at the age of four.

"There are others at nine years who do not know the first thing about drugs.

"It's because of that sort of complexity that we cannot give a blanket treatment.

"We are now starting to see that there's a need for young people to understand the effects of drugs on their hodies at an early age." he added.

He said he was surprised at the naivety of some children he had spoken to, citing the example of a recent visit to two schools in which pupils thought it was legal to take drugs such as cannahis and ecstasy.

He argued that a better understanding could help children "delay experimentation with

Considered a controversial, hut forward thinking person. Mr Hellawell, currently the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, will be aided hy his

deputy, Michael Trace, 36, currently Director of the Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners' Trust, and a staff of just six. The drug chicf will have direct access to the Prime Minister but no new money.

After 36 years as a policeman, Mr Hellawell has made a flying into the millennium.

start to his new £102,000- a-year iob. Last month he met ministers to present preliminary findings about government spending on drugs. He plans to propose a national drugs strategy in April. "I felt it was important we had something to take forward

"I'm not going to come out with motherhood and apple pie statements. It will he sharp and realistic and objective. You have got to deliver." It will be followed in about

a year with targets for agencies and departments. He added: "The question is,

should include targeting homes, schools, colleges, and work and leisure places.

One of his greatest con-

Keith Heliawell: 'Dealers like heroin because young people get addicted to it relatively quickly, get hooked and keep coming back for more'

Photograph: David Rose

cerns is the rise in the popularity and availability of heroin.

"It's becoming the drug of the first choice among many young people and the cost in many of our cities is sometimes lower than cannabis, ecstasy and LSD," he said. "The dealers like heroin because young people get addicted to it relatively quickly, gct hooked and keep coming back for more."

Mr Hellawell also wants to examine the expansion of the use of treatment centres and counselling for addicts.

He believes addictive drugs are one of the higgest problems. "In the first instance we need to what is the vision? Where do we look at areas where we can have want to go in five or ten years the biggest pay-off - with crack time?" And he called for a cocaine and heroin users."

"holistic" approach to treat-But, dismissing any suggestion that he supports the dement. He said future strategies criminalisation of drugs, he stressed: "This does not mean we should ignore other areas such as cannabis and ecstasy use."

# Seizures double in a year as traffickers turn to Channel tunnel

The Channel tunnel is the fastest growing route for drug trafficking, unpublished figures reveal. Iason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent, talks to customs officers about changing tactics and the new threat.

Seizures of drugs being smuggled under the Channel have doubled in the past year, statistics obtained by The Independent reveal.

The amount of cocaine found on vehicles being brought to Britain through the tunnel has leapt sevenfold in the past 12 months, more than four times as much heroin has been confiscated and three times the quantity of cannahis. The value of the - bid cocaine in plaster casts on her legs.

drugs snatched has doubled since 1996 to about £16.8m-worth at street prices in 1997.

Customs officers say that drug traffickers are increasingly targeting the tunnel. The undersea network is considered to have several advantages for the smugglers including hiding the origin of the couriers as everyone comes through France.

Among the recent trends noticed by Customs are an increase in age of the couriers - a 75-year-old Dutchman was found with 7.5kg of cocaine hidden in his caravan - and traffickers pretending to he husi-The smugglers are also becoming more

ingenious about hiding their illegal goods. For example in October 7kg of cocaine was found hidden in the front seat passenger's emergency airbag and a Brazilian woman

Ever since the tunnel was opened in November 1994 there has been fear that it would become a major route for drug trafficking. Andrew Filmer, of the Customs and Excise's Tourist Anti Smuggling division at Coquelles, near Calais, which checks people with vehicles entering Britain, said: We're finding a lot more Class A drugs such as heroin and cocaine, which is reflecting the increase demand. There's growing confidence about using the tunnel to bring in drugs. There's also more

smugglers dressing up as businessmen as

Bob Arthurs, head of Customs and Excise at Waterloo International, which deals with foot passengers on the Eurosiar, said couriers swallowing packages of exeaine or hiding them inside their body was still a popular method of smuggling at the mo-

£1499

steadily going up, people are hecoming more aware of the advantage of Eurostar and how it can help lose their identity."

For example traffickers from South American countries that have drug connections are attempt to disguise where they have come from by travelling through several countries. A typical route is from Brazil to Portugal, Spain and then France, Most of the smugglers, however, are British, Dutch, and German.

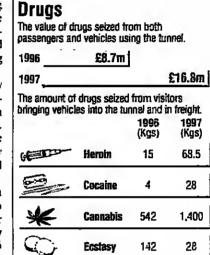
Among the smugglers recently caught include a man from Amsterdam who was found to have swallowed 91 packages of cocaine wrapped in condoms, which took a week to pass through his body. He later got six years in jail.

On 20 December, a 51-year-old German woman was stopped in Waterloo. Inside the

ment. "The numbers and amounts are lining of her suitcase officers found 4.5kg of heroin, worth about £500,000, and the largest ever haul at the station. The narcotics are believed to be from Turkey and were on their way to one of the Turkish drug families in north London.

The street value of the drugs seizure by British customs officers based at Coquelles near Calais, have increased from £7.7m in 1996 to at least £15.1m this year. The number of commercial or large seizures rose from 16 to 27, pornography finds rose from 22 to 49 and firearms and illegal weapons went up from five to 11.

Heroin showed the higgest leap from 15kg to 68.5kg, cocaine rose from 4kg to 28kg, cannahis was 542kg last year, this year it was 1,400 kg, while the amount of cestasy fell from 142kg to 28kg, although the 1996 total included one seizure of 141kg.



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# Hereditary peers could stand as MPs

The historic bar on hereditary peers sitting in the Commons is likely to be lifted under the Government's reforms for the House of Lords. As a Cabinet committee gets down to business. Colin Brown, Chief Political Correspondent, says hereditary peers could be allowed to stand for election for the first time.

Hereditary peers who are harred from voting at general elections could be allowed to stand for seats in the House of Commons under the Government's plans for reform of the House of Lords.

Cabinet sources have told The Independent that it is likely that having deprived the hered-

itary of their voting rights as part of the reform to the House of Lords, they should be able to stand for the House of Commons and vote for the first time in elections.

Peers are barred from voting and standing for election to the Commons, along with the insane and criminals, because they are represented in the House of Lords. But when they cease to be eligible to vote in the Lords, the hereditary peers would have no representation, unless a change in the law was allowed.

A Cabinet source said: "The reason that peers are disqualified from standing in elections is because they already have power in the Lords. There are various suggestions being made about the hereditaries, about whether they could lose their voting rights but keep their speaking rights.

"That would leave the hereditary peers in a sort of lim-



Marquess of Bath (left) and Tony Benn both support giving the vote to peers barred from voting in the Lords

bo. It would be logical to stay they should be allowed to vote and stand for elections to the Commons if they lose their rights to vote in the House of

Michael Ancram, the Conservative spokesman on constitutional affairs, could be directly effected. As the Earl of

Ancram, he is the heir to the title of the Marquess of Lothian and has told friends that if he inherited the title he would still wish to stand in the Communs. There should be a change in the law," he said.

Under the present rules, he would have to renounce his peerage to do so, but he would tion, if necessary, tn make sure that the reform of the Lords enables hereditary peers to stand for the Commons.

The Marquess of Bath, a supporter of Lords reform and a Liberal Democrat peer with a hereditary title dating back to 1789, said it would be a logical move. "I don't see myself standing now. My feeling is that there is no justification for hereditary peers in the Hnuse of Lords but it would be logical to allow them to stand for the Commons."

It would also avoid embarrassing dilemmas for MPs who inherit titles. Tony Benn MP, who changed the law to rennunce his title as Viscount Stansgate for his lifetime, also saw the logic of allowing hereditary peers to stand for the Commons, when they lose their voting rights in the Lords,

Cabinet policy papers are being prepared and ministerisources said the Cahinet

he ready to amend the legisla- committee would be getting down to husiness early in the New Year. Changes would be made before the end of the Parliament, in spite of the packed list of Government business, said the source. But left-wingers are likely to demand more radical changes to make the Lords an elected chamber.

Mr Benn was on Wednesday getting his teeth into the Prime Minister's powers of patronage in the wake of the New Year Honours List. He said the last 10 prime ministers had appointed 900 life peers. "Anyone who is hoping for a peerage will say nothing and do nothing that might upset the Prime Minis-

ter," he said on BBC radio. "When you get patronage without suggesting anything improper - it is corrupt. I have known civil servants recommending husinessmen for some honour and then when they retired, they got a jnh on the



Photograph: Geoff Robinson

# How to succeed in a white world: one woman's tale

People like Jobeda Ali do not usually expect to go to Cambridge University. She is the daughter of a mother who can neither read nor write, a secondgeneration immigrant from Bangladesh, and was educated at east London state schools. Judith Judd, Education Editor, explains how she did it.

Jobeda Ali has overcome most types of disadvantage on the way to her upper second class degree at Trinity College, Cambridge. When she applied to Cambridge four years ago, she was told she needed three grade Bs at A-level to secure her place - unlike most of her fellow applicants who were told they needed either two or three As.

The offer was made under a special entry scheme for disadvantaged pupils. But it proved unnecessary. Jobeda gained three grade As.

Four years on, Jobeda has a new joh as administrator of the group to encourage ethnic minority applicants (Geema) to the university. She is clear about her role. "I'm not interested in statistics. My aim is to ensure that black and Asian students can see enough hlack and Asian faces to feel comfortable here."

She remembers vividly her first invitation to coffee on her first day at Cambridge. She expected to walk in and socialise in her normal way but found herself tongue-tied. "It took me two weeks to work out what was wrong. I had never before been in a room where every other person was white."

The gap between Cambridge and some ethnic minority groups is hard for ontsiders to grasp, she says. Her mother, who cannot read, write, or speak English, had never heard of Cambridge and didn't want her daughter to go. "Her reaction was 'why don't you stay in Lon-

could go to university here'.' One of the hig differences between a public schoolboy from Eton who comes to Cambridge and herself, she says, is the level of parental interest. "It wasn't just the case that I had no one to help with my maths homework. No one even asked me what I had

If she tried to read, her mother took away the book and said she should be doing something more useful. Even now, her mother is looking out for a suitable husband for her.

done at school."

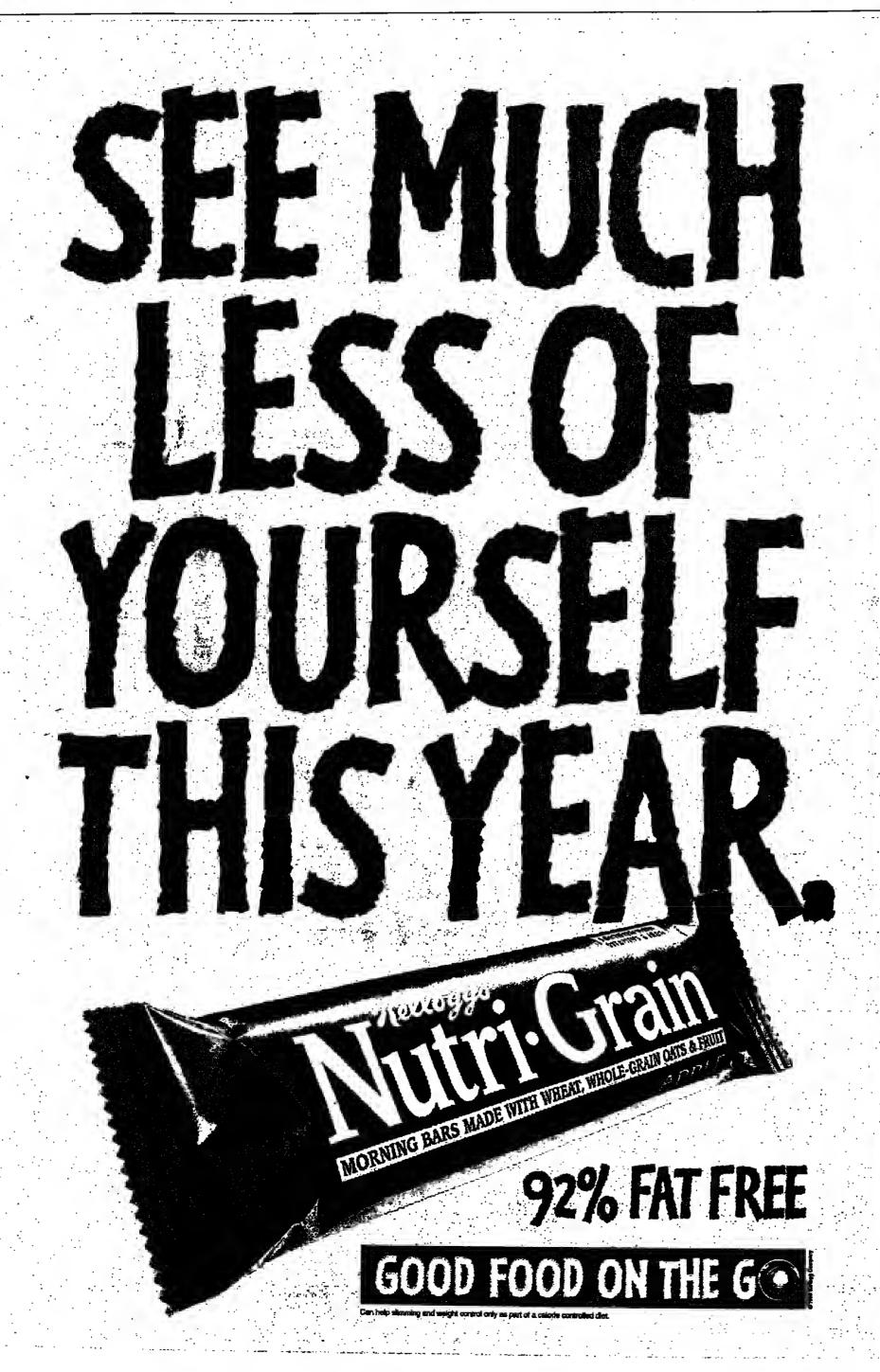
Secretly, Jobeda says, she had always wanted to try for Oxbridge, though she scarcely dared admit it to herself. When students from the group she now runs came to Tower Hamlets College where she was doing her A-levels, she was suddenly given the confidence to apply.

Her present job is to run a programme of events to persuade people like her to feel the same way. She also has plans for student-shadowing to show ethnic minority pupils a day in the life of a Cambridge students. A new video and prospectus are being sent out. For a decade, the univer-

sity's message to anxious ethnic minority and state school students has heen: the Brideshead image is wrong; there are picuty of people like you here. Joheda argues that, of

course, black and Asian people need to feel comfortable at Cambridge "hut that doesn't mean they all want to rush off to dinner at the Indian Society. Some want the traditional things. I love punting. I love strawberries and champagne and I love May balls."

She know that raising the proportion of black and Asian students - currently 11 per cent - will not be easy. "Take a white public school boy and myself. We both have an upper second from Trinity. We both go for the same job. We appear to be equal. But we are not I am four times better than he is. I have the same degree but I have overcome the gender harrier, the class barrier and the race barrier."



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# Come right in, US tells baseball refugee

A former Cuban baseball star was cleared to enter America yesterday after escaping from Cuba by boat. Five of his fellow passengers are unlikely to be so lucky. Mary Dejevsky asks if the US operates double standards when offering asylum to Cubans.

Few would argue that Orlando Hernandez did not constitute a special case, "El Duque" (the Duke), was a star pitcher for Cuba's national baseball team. one of Cuba's élite. But that came to an end two years ago, when his younger brother, Livan, also a basehall star, de-

fected to the United States. While Livan rose to stardom in his adopted country, helping the outsiders, the Florida Marlins, to victory in the 1997 World Series, Orlando was banned from his national team. harassed by officials and blamed for his brother's escape.

Early on 26 December, Orlando, his girlfriend, Noris Bosch, and six others left Cuba in a small sailing boat, hoping

cracks down

with the New Year.

rather than 45 at present.

have been trebled - to \$525.

A ban on smoking in California bars is not

the only lifestyle-cramping law that went

onto the statute book of American states

cure their parents' permission before hav-

ing any part of their body pierced, while

wailing car alarms will make drivers' cars

liable to he towed away after 20 minutes,

injure a cat will have to report the accident

and face a fine of up to \$100 for not do-

ing so. The change gives cats parity with

dogs. Also in New York, the fines on own-

ers of dogs that bark too loudly or too long

— Mary Dejevsky, Washington

In New York state, drivers who kill or

Under-18s in California will have to se-



Orlando Hernandez: 'Close ties' to the United States

to reach Florida. But the boat started to take on water and they were forced to land on the remote Anguilla Cay on the fringe of the Bahamas. After almost four days, they were picked up by the US Coast Guard and handed over to the Bahamian authorities. By Tuesday they

were in detention in Nassau. For more than three years, US policy on Cuban "boatpeople" has been firm: they are repatriated unless they qualify for political asylum by demonstrating "well-grounded fear of persecution". The Bahamas has a similar policy.

Florida coast, Hernandez and the others were liable to be sent back. Instead, the State Department went into overdrive. Officials cited "special circumstances" the only question was which would guarantee Hernandez's speediest entry into the US while setting fewest precedents.

A State Department spokesman, James Foley, spoke of his "close ties to the United States", the status of his brother as "a well-known sports figure" and the fact that "he has suffered already reprisals in Cuba as a result of his brother's defection". The US took "very seriously", said Mr Foley, Hernandez's "strong fear of additional and increased persecution" if he were sent back to Cuba.

Hernandez received a visit from the US ambassador in Nassau, representatives of Florida-hased emigré organisations, and a teading Cuban emigré sports agent. Within 36 hours, he, his girlfriend and a second baseball player in the boat had been granted permission to enter the US.

Their five companions, however, are still in detention in Nassau. They are likely to be deported.

#### Land of the Free Kenya opposition claim Moi cheated

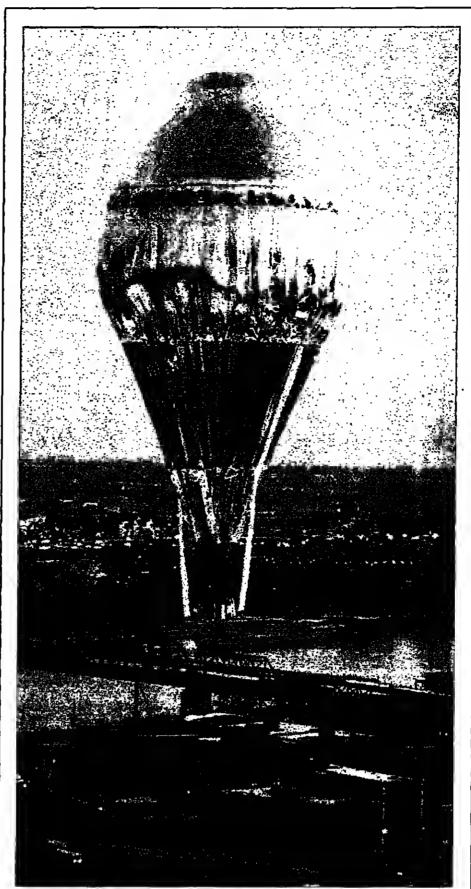
reject such a result.

Kenya's main opposition parties yesterday accused President Daniel arap Moi of using fraud to win the election after early results pointed to a fifth term. But the opposition party leaders said they would

Kenyan television reported that unoffical counts from 60 per cent of the seats showed Mr Moi had won 1,466,868 votes against 1,0091,869 for his nearest rival, Mwai Kibaki of the Democratic Party.

Mr Moi needs 25 per cent of the vote in five of Kenya's eight provinces to win. failing which he will face a run-off against the second-placed candiate. The early results also suggest that Mr Moi has increased his vote since the last elections in 1982.

— Ed O'Loughlin, Nairobi



Into the blue: Millionaire adventurer Steve Fossett lifting off from Busch stadium in St Louis, Missouri, this week as he began his attempt to fly a hot-air balloon Photograph: AP/St Louis Post-Dispatch non-stop around the world

# Israeli foreign minister to quit

David Levy, announced last night that he was resigning. He said the five MPs of his Gesher party would vote against Benjamin Netanyahu's government on the 1998 budget.

Mr Levy said he would resign immediately after the Gesher five voted against the budget. This left open a slim possibility that Mr Netanyahu might yield at the last minute to the foreign minister's pressure. Officials in the Prime Minister's office claimed, however, that the financial cost would be too high.

"This is a government which is on a flight to nowhere," Mr Levy said. The foreign minister's brother, Maxim Levy. Gesher's parliamentary whip, insisted they were not bluffing If Gesher joins the opposition.

it would reduce Mr Netanyahu's majority to a maximum of six in

The Israeli foreign minister, the Knesset But a handful of opponents of the Oslo agreement in the Prime Minister's own Likud are also threatening to withhold support. Failure to pass the budget would precipitate elections.

Gesher projects itself as the champion of the underprivileged Israelis of Afro-Asian origin. Mr Levy had demanded that the government invest in a recovery programme for the depressed areas. Mr Netanyahu turned him down.

'Mr Levy is the government's most outspoken supporter of West Bank withdrawals. His departure would tilt the balance to the right and highlight the question mark against Mr Netanyahu's capacity to push through the "generous" evacuation that both the Americans and Palestinians are demanding.

- Eric Silver, Jerusalem

#### Pol Pot 'has escaped with Chinese help'

The infamous Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot has escaped from Cambodia to avoid facing an international court for his crimes against humanity, Cambodian newspapers said yes-

Pol Pot was said to have escaped with assistance from China, though the Chinese embassy in Phnom Penh denied the reports and government officials dismissed them as propaganda

paper Koh Santepheap said Pol Pot had escaped from the rebels' jungle hase of Anlong Veng. The newspaper said the Khmer Rouge defence chief Ta Mok had met Chinese diplomats at about the time of the escape. The opposition newspaper Udom Kateak said the Chinese wanted Pol Pot to avoid trial because they had backed his 1975-79 "killing fields" regime.

## Indian right looks set for poll victory

from opposition forces. The pro-government news-

- Reuters, Phnom Penh

India will hold elections over four days beginning 16 February, the chief election commissioner said yesterday.

Early opinion surveys have indicated the right-wing Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party will win the most seats, though no party is expected to get a majority. The BJP was to launch its campaign later yesterday with a rally in Bombay.

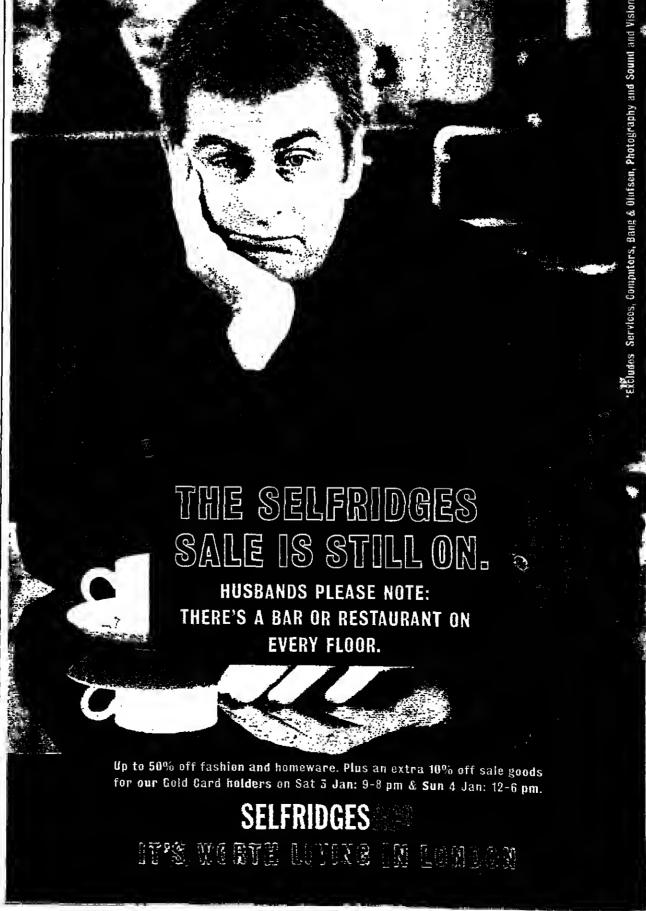
No party won a majority in the last elections in May 1996, and ideological differences and competing ambitions kept the main blocs from working together. New voting had to be called three years early after the Congress Party withdrew support from the governing United Front coalition, accusing one of its members of supporting Sri Lankan guerrillas linked to the 1991 assassination of Congress leader and former prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi.





The Right Chemistry





# 9/RED BRIGADES

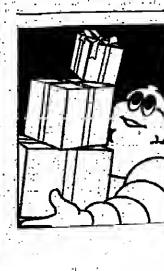
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# in right s set for victory

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Wears care the a BULL WHITE - ... he governo coalition ..... y tembers of an exon married the rader and the der, Rajiy Gart - AR New Lin



# Amnesty offers Italy chance to forget its years of terror



torist generation: Red Brigades-members Garbriella Mariani and Adriana Faranda on trial in connection with Aldo Moro's kidnapping in 1978 (they are now free after serving 12 years). Right: the discovery of Moro's body

For Christmas this year, Italy's President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro decided to pardon six people involved in the Red Brigades terrorist group in the 1970s. The gesture was intended to encourage parliament to declare a general amnesty for terrorist offences. Andrew Gumbel explains why everyone has an interest in forgetting one of the darkest chapters in

Six months ago, the radical left-wing political science professor Toni Negri made an extraordinary decision. After 14 years living comfortably in Paris

Italy's post-war history.

as a fugitive from Italian justice, he decided to come home and face a 30-year jail sentence. His crime, at least acsheet, was inciting his students at Padua University to terrorist violence back in the 1970s.

Professor Negri has always denied the charges, and his case has provoked strong criticism from Amnesty International and others. But he chose to go to jail to become a living symbol of Italy's need to come to terms with the multiple injustices of the terrorist perical. He declared he was willing to admit he had made mistakes even if they were not criminal ones - and hoped the Italian state would be magnanimous enough to do likewise and declare an

amnesty. Six months on, Professor Negri is still in Rebibbia prison in Rome, but the debate has taken on greater urgency. A parliamentary committee has drafted a law that would trim jail sentences for terrorist offences far enough to free most of the 180-odd people still being ponished for their crimes. Politicians on all sides have spoken of the need to put the dark days of the late

1970s behind them and no longer pose a threat. And now President Scalfaro has exercised his prerogative to pardon six minor brigatisti none responsible for shedding blood - still caught in the judicial wringer. "It's realistic to think," said the senior left-wing

stations, killed dozens of policemen, magistrates and journalists, and carried out the audacious kidnapping and murder of Aldo Moro, the leader of the Christian Democrat party? Part of the reasoo is a cultural reflex: the desire not to

Years of Lead."

exacerbate social divisions through revenge, but rather to adhere to the Catholic traditioo of forgiveness (interestingly the Italian word being used for the terrorist amnesty, indulto, is by origin a Church term referring to a special dispensation from the teoets of canon law).

Part of the reason is an acknowledgement that terrorists,

#### DECADE OF VIOLENCE

- a reference not only to the bullets that flew with alarming regularity, but also to the oppressive atmosphere that weighed down the whole country. These are some of the key events of those years:

December 1969: Bomb destroys the Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura in Piazza Fontana in Milan, killing 16 people. Although initially blamed on the left, this was the work of rightwingers intended to scare restive factory workers out of launching a Communist revolution.

1974: Bomb kills eight at a demonstration in Brescia; later in the year a train bombing in a tunnel near Bologna kills 12 more. Both are the work of right-wingers.

1976: Red Brigades commit first murder, of Genoa state prosecutor Francesco Coco (right). Nearly 100 more killings follow over the next four



1978: Red Brigades kidnap Aldo Moro, architect of the stillborn 'historic compromise' with the Communists, near his home and kill his bodyguards. After a tense 55 days, his corpse is found in the back of a car at a spot equidistant from the Rome headquarters of the Christian Democrat and the Communist

1980: Right-wing bomb kills 85 at Bologna rallway station. The same year, captured Red Brigades members begin to co-operate with the police, leading to the disbandment of the group and the end of the Years of Lead.

acknowledge that the terrorists particularly the left-wing variety, were treated far more. harshly by the judicial system . two-thirds majority, It could be than common criminals would have been for similar offences; in other words, there was ao explicit political element to their punishment.

But perhaps the most compelling, if least advertised, reason to put the events of the 1970s to rest is the culture of bad faith, hatred, conspiracy and violence that enveloped the entire country during the period - leading to subversive acts committed not only by a handful of political ideologues but by magistrates, politicians and intelligence officers, too. Enough scandals have emerged from the tives. An amnesty may relieve period to implicate large chunks of the state structure in illegal-

ity and violence. The first wave of bombings, murky violence of the past.

politician, Pietro Folena, "that starting with an attack oo a bank by the year 2000 our country will in Piazza Fontana in Milan in have closed its accounts with the 1969, were right-wing in inspiratioo and intended to counter But why should Italy conthe rising fortunes of the Comsider pardoning a generation of munist Party. Evidence has terrorists that, from 1969 to emerged that parts of the po-1981, blew up banks and railway litical élite and secret services devised a deliberate "strategy of tension" to deter the public from voting the Communists into power. But the precise chain of responsibilities has never heen established, and even the identities of the

bombers have never been ade-

quately proven. The Red Brigades and other violent leftist groups emerged as a reaction to the right-wing terrorists and to the state's cack-handed attempts to hlame the early bombings on left-wing anarchists. There are suspicions that parts of the Christian Democrat party al-

> lowed Moro to be killed rather than negotiating for his release hecause they did oot approve of his policy of rapprochement with the

> > The murkiness also spread into the judicial system. Professor Negri is just one celebrated case of suspected miscarriage of justice. Three left-wing activists io jail for the murder of a Milan police officer in the early 1970s are also widely believed to he innocent, victims of a judicial process that has been likened to the

Spanish Inquisition. Because of Italy's system of plea-bargaining, a number of Red Brigades murderers got off relatively lightly while others further down the pole of responsibility have languished in jail for years.

An amnesty is a con-

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venieot way of closing the lid nn all of these horrors. Significantly, one of the most ardent champions of the indulto is the former state president, Francesco Cossiga, a man linked to myriad scandals of state involvement in subversive acts. During the Moro kidnapping he was interior minister and thus directly responsible for the decision whether or not to negotiate with his party leader's captors.

The amoesty's passage through parliament requires a scuppered by political concerns: the party headed by the former prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi, wants to link an amnesty oo terrorism to an amnesty on the recent wave of corruption scandals in which Mr Berlusconi is deeply implicated. The one could easily cancel out

In the wrangling, the concerns of the families of terrorism victims have gone virtually unheeded. Unlike France, Italy has no mechanism for providing compensation or any kind of state help to bereaved relaa lot of troubled consciences, but nobody has yet had the courage to say sorry for the

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(Rates also apply to Bonus Bond Select and Balanced Bond Select). In addition, also applies to the following accounts which are no longer available: High 30, H/Life. Overseas 3 Month Capital Account, Overseas Prime Access account (f), Cheshunt Foreign 90. Cheshuni Instant Access, Cheshunt Foreign Instant, Cheshunt Instant Gross, Cheshunt Charity Instant, Ex Aid to Thrift, Guaranteed Investment Account Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19. No 1 Capital (t), Triple Bonus (t), Bristol Plus, Moneylink, Snoopy, Guaranteed Equity Bond 3 Year Issue 1, Balanced Guaranteed Equity Bond 1 Year Issues A. B. C. D. E & F. Guaranteed Equity Bond 5 Year issues 1, 2 & 3, Bonus Interest Bond Issue 1, Capital Maker Bond, Premier Save Bond Issues 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6, Escalator Bond Issue 3 (3 years), Fixed for Six Bond Issues 1 & 2, Bonus Return Bond Issues 1 & 2, Bonus Interest Bond Issues 2 & 3, Bonus Bond Issue 2, Secure Investment Account Issue 3 & 4, Premier Option Bond all Issues Fixed and Variable, Pramier Twelve Fixed Issue 1, 1 Year Option Deposit Bond Fixed Issues 1 & 2 and Balancad Guaranteed Equity Bond 1 Year Deposit Issues 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5, Capital Protection Growth Bond Issue 1 and Gueranteed Equity Bond Plus Issue 1, Intermedian Balanced Guaranteed Equity Bond 1 Year Deposit Issue 1, Year Plus Bond Issues 1.8.3

Base Rate Tracker Bond Issue 1.	POSIT 1000C 1, 10	ar i vas bulla i	43ue3 1 & 2,	
SPECIAL MONTHLY INCOME (No longer available) Rales also apply to High 30 Monthly Income, Cheshunt Instant Income. Overseas Monthly Income (†). No 1 Income (†), Triple Bonus Monthly Income (†), Premier Option Bond all Issues (Monthly Income) Fixed and Variable, Escalator Bond Issue 3 (Monthly Income), Premier Twelve Issue 1 (Monthly Income) and Year Plus Deposit Bond Monthly Income Issues 1 & 2, all no longer available.	£50,000+ £25,000+ £10,000+ £2,000+ £2,000+ £500+ £1+	3.15% 3.01% 2.72% 2.37% 2.08% 1.29% 0.20%	2.52% 2.41% 2.17% 1.90% 1.66% 1.03% 0.16%	
BALMORAL HIGH INTEREST ACCOUNT (No longer available) (Also Balmoral Fixed Rate Bond Issue I and II and Balmoral Limited Edition Bond).	£100,000+ £50,000+ £25,000+ £10,000+ £2,000+	4.65% 4.50% 4.45% 4.15% 3.30%	3.72% 3.60% 3.56% 3.32% 2.64%	

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£50,000+

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BRISTOL & WEST PLC

BALMORAL MONTHLY INCOME ACCOUNT

Limited Edition Bond (Monthly Income)

(No longer available) also Balmoral

# Irish factory helps eels slither on to the menus of Europe

Cod and chips beware; Ireland is preparing a quiet revolution in seafood with the first guaranteed large-scale supplies of eel. Alan Murdoch reports.

The ecrie, wriggling silbouettes of tens of thousands of dark slithery creatures have a hypnotic effect. To their patient owners at Ireland's first eel factory, who invested countless hours catching them and creating an £800,000 hi-tech babitat, the contents of the giant fibre-glass tanks inspire a mixture of pride and nervous anticipation.

A bold gamble by the new company, . Aqua Arklow in County Wicklow, means 60 to 200 tonnes a year of smoked Irish eels could soon be dished up to consumers in Europe, and possibly Japan. Aided by Ireland's enterprising state fisheries body BIM (Bord Iascaigh Mhara), they may also appeal to the taste buds of Irisb and Britisb

Catching them at just 0.3 grammes, Aqua Arklow feeds them up to 150 grammes, when they are ready for eating. Under a forward-thinking plan agreed with fisheries au-

rivers a larger proportion of older, five-to 10-gramme specimens from its original catch than would normally survive in the

The aim is to reverse, in Ireland at least, a 20-year decline in European eel numbers and give Irish fisbermen larger wild adult catches than the varying river supplies would allow naturally. Until now, this bad thwarted the possibility of a mass market for wild eel. It is not currently possible to breed them in captivity.

In the wild, the eel faces a 50 to 84 per cent mortality rate in its early months. Able to swim forwards and backwards, it can also breathe through its skin and smell food across extraordinary distances.

They spawn in the Caribbean's warm Sargasso Sea before migrating as glass eels to European estuaries. From pigmented "elvers", they grow into yellow then silver adults, then migrate down-river and south to complete the cycle.

Like most transatlantic voyagers they suffer stress. After the ordeal of grading at the plant they need salt or baking-pow-

der haths to recover their equilibrium. Catching the tiny glass eels is perhaps

thorities, Aqua then returns to lakes and the hardest part of the Aqua's factory process, according to managing director Declan Duggan. Eels move only under particular tidal and weather conditions. "It might be night or day and we bave to work around the tides. It's laborious; you can go for two or three trips over 200 miles without catching one. It's very hit and miss."

Locals are fascinated. "They are always asking 'How are the eels?' If it was trout they wouldn't be so interested. But with eels it's like snails and slugs, they're almost afraid of them," be says.

Mr Duggan, 37, used expertise he learned in industrial pipe fitting and beating to good effect. Five years in planning, the sophisticated plant features computerised oxygen and pb controls and a constant 25C water temperature.

This is essential for nurturing eels to their full 16 inches in six to 18 months, compared with six to seven years in cooler, wild conditions. (Wild eels stop feeding in cold temperatures.)

After seven days of "purging" in clear water, they are transported live for smoking on the Continent. So far not one eel has been lost to disease.



Slippery meal: Aqua Arklow hopes its eels will appeal to European tastes

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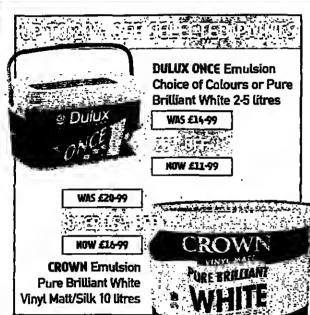
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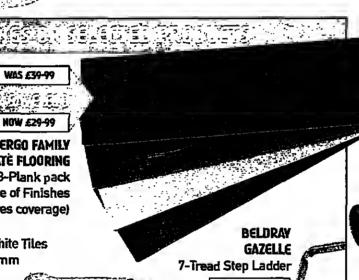
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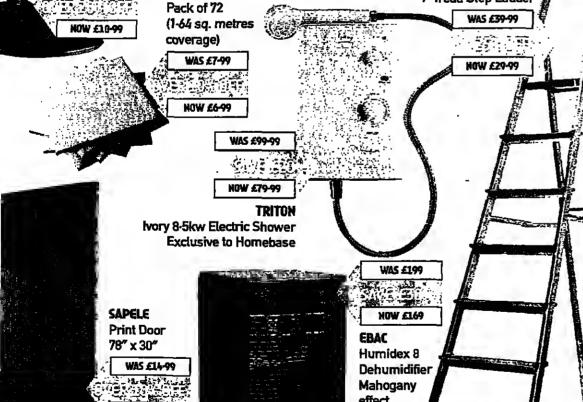
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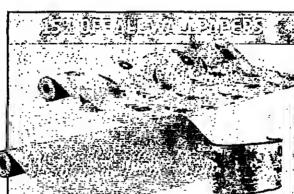












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Blair to issue millennium bug warning

Tony Blair will call on business to wake up to the "millennium bug" which could lead to computers crashing at the turn of the century. But Colin Brown, Chief Political

Correspondent, says the Government's own house needs to be put in order.

The Prime Minister is said to be "sbocked and appalled" at the ignorance of small businesses to the threat posed-by the bug and is giving the problem high priority, according to senior government sources.

He has become alarmed at the potential for disaster claims by the Liberal Defaced by some firms, His planned "wake-up" call to industry and small businesses early in 1998 will drive home the message that they should make sure their computers are tested and altered to cope with the double zero date, well before the end of next year.

Mr Blair will put the computer problem bigh on the agenda for Britain's sixmonth presidency of the European Union, his officials said. "The Prime Minister is NHS and transport.

determined that Britain prepares itself and leads the preparations in Europe," said the Government source.

"He is sbocked and appalled at the some of the neglect of the problem. One poll showed only 55 per cent of the companies were aware of the implications," the source added.

The Prime Minister's decision to act follows several reports in The Independent of the dismay among some experts at the lack of preparation being made in Britain to enable computers to cope with the millennium.

The Government has also insisted that its own computers are being corrected in time to cope with the millennium. A spokesman for the Inland Revenue denied mocrat Treasury spokesman, Malcolm Bruce, that its PAYE computers could crash this year. Mr Bruce said the costs for the Government of coping with the bug bad escalated to £3bn.

The Government estimated it would cost £370m to deal with computers in central departments, but Mr Bruce said this did not include thousands of computers in other areas of the public sector, including the

# Anger at return of the body-snatchers

Body-snatching is back in fashion. Only this time the snatchers are not Burke and Hare but biotechnologists seeking to exploit the growing market in genes and diagnostic tests. Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, asks whose body is it anyway?

A series of cases in which scientists have found themselves in conflict with patients over who owns tissue removed from their bodies has highlighted a growing problem that could threaten medical research, two experts in medical law have warned.

Patients bave spoken of being "violated" when their body tissue was used without their consent. In one case, John Moore, a patient in California whose tissue was transformed into a commercial cell line and patented without his knowledge or consent, complained of feeling be bad been "raped".

In another case, a widow sued a Los Alamos laboratory for severe mental and emononal distress after it bad removed three and half kilograms of organs from her dead busband for research.

Professors Lori Andrews of Chicago-Kent College of Law and Dorothy Nelkin of New York University say in The Lancet that scientists often see the body and its parts as impersonal objects to be used for research and commercial development, and with the advent of biotechnology human tissue bas become a raw material.

"Body parts are extracted like a mineral, barvested like a crop, mined like a resource. Cells, embryos or tissue can be frozen, banked ... patented, bought or sold."

They compare the bodysnatching of the 18th century, whose most notorious practitioners were Burke and Hare who murdered individuals to sell to Dr Knox's anatomy school in Edinburgh, with the activities of scientists today. "Pathologists routinely analyse tissue samples without obtaining consent. Researchers try to commercialise tissue without sharing profits with sources. Objectifying the body enables scientists to extract, use and patent body tissue without reference to the person involved."

Professors Andrews and Nelkin say scientists risk a backlash if they continue to ignore public disquiet about what often appears to be the. callous exploitation of human tissue by medical researchers.

Your d will alw disappo to you. was the thing a Frer to

THE TIME: 1992 THE PLACE: A LONDON HOSPITAL

The priter Dea Birkett thought she had her whole pped out ahead of then, out of the blue, told the truth baby daughter.

inveterate list-maker. the Day List, which anundane household test (ive hypoallergenic washingpowder, get toilet fixed agai) with work (hassle travel edior to send me somewhere hot write to publisher about lac of reviews, chase up unpaid exenses). The first item on the Da List is always "plan day" (cile for "writing a list"), so as son as the list is written, I can cress out the top line. The Wek List contains more substatial work commitments: wite book review; finish chapte seven; return proofs.

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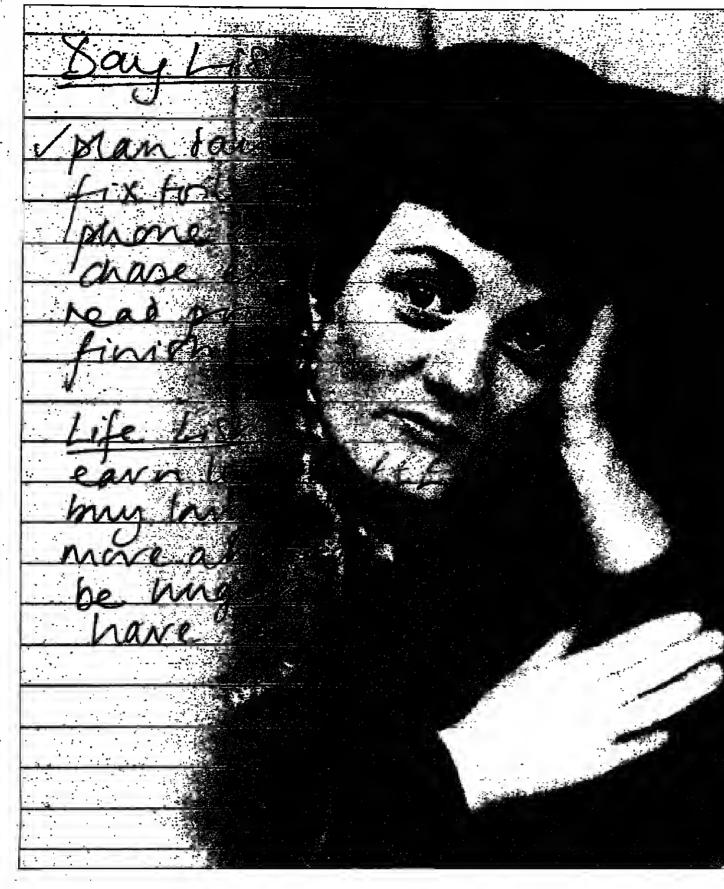
The most important list of alwas the Life List: earn loads omoney, spend half the year aroad; huy big house in centrd London; become hugely sccessful writer by 30. When 3 passed, I drew a fine blue. he through that figure and wote "35"; shortly after my 3th birthday, I put "40". The life List was my declaration of tith in myself. I was confident aat, given time and a little hit & cheating, everything would b ticked off.

In truth, "have a baby" was ever on the Life List. But when reached my early thirties, ther women of my age were saving children, my boyfriend was certain that he wanted a hild, and, once the decision was made, it happened that night. Already pregnant, I sneaked "have a baby" on to the list in retrospect and pretended it had been there all along. Never a matey person, I imagmed motherhood would be the first club to let me in.

Being pregnant was a blessing to a listophile. There are all ose things you aren't supposed to eat (pinued up in a list above the fridge in the kitchen); the endless appointments at antenatal clinic, breast-feeding and breathing-in-labour classes; the birth plan (just a glorified list); and the list of those things to take with you into hospital bags of ice, towels, birthing stool, electric fan, sandwiches, book on how to give birth).

> Child-rearing itself seemed lo promise a wealth of new listcompiling possibilities, around which my day, week and life could be structured. Most tasks were so simple, such as buying bink-edged Pampers, that they could be easily deleted with a reat flourish of satisfaction. My intenatal appointments were replaced by my daughter's reekly weighing sessions, 10week check, three-month heck. At the three-month check, she seemed a little floppy. I added "Buy Penelope Leach and Miriam Stoppard" to the Day List; they should be able to help with handy hints as to how to cure floppiness. Listwriting and motherbood were meant for each other. Then, six months after my daughter was

horn, the Life List stopped. There had been suspicions about my daughter's condition for some time. But then, who isn't worried about their first baby? Maybe, if I had been 19, I'd have put her in a frilly pink dress, tied her non-existent fuzz of hair in tiny riobous, put



ried on careless. Only we older mothers make such a song and dance about bringing up haby. Friends were also having concerns about their newborns one's son wasn't putting on enough weight, another's daughter had ghastly projectile vomiting. My daughter's floppiness was just another focus for an over-auxious mother in her mid-thirties.

**Your daughter** will always be a disappointment to you,' he said. It was the cruellest thing anyone has ever told me

But soon, there were several appointments a week with specialists which other babies were not having. At yet another one, my daughter was sitting on my lap as we discussed whether she was old enough to supplement her milk with some juice, when the consultant said, in such a throwaway manner that I only just caught the the words, "Of course, your daughter has cerebral palsy." Strangely, the words I remember most are not the cold, clinical diagnosis, but the "of course". Of course?

it. Cerebral palsy wasn't on the

Cerebral palsy is a condition which affects a child's motor abilities. If you are born with cerebral palsy, you will always have it. The degree to which a child is affected varies from so mild it passes unnoticed to near-total impairment. It seemed that my daughter would be somewhere in the middle. The consultant added. "She will always be a disappointment to you." It is the cruellest thing that anyone has ever said to me. It is also a lie. But from that moment, my

life diverged from the way of

the lists. It was as if I had been following some roughlymapped route and, suddenly, the car swerved wildly and I began to plough through a terrain
I had never intended to venture into. When a baby is diagnosed with cerebral palsy, it is unclear where in this foreign land of disability she will fall. Low expectations of children with cerebral palsy - as with all children with disabilities - inevitably encourage such children to underschieve. My daughter might do all sorts of things - and she might not. There would be no certainties. The only lists I could write were those by the day or week. When I tried to construct a Life List. it dissolved into daily tasks. I could no longer imagine what

we all make presumptions about what the future will hold. As adults, we live for an unarticulated future, some blueprint we keep secret from even ourselves. Life would be intolerable otherwise; we have in think that things will go on. Without realising it. I had had a clear assumption of how my

child would turn out. Much has come true - she eats ice-cream like face-paint, chats endlessly. gossips with her girlfriends and says that, when she grows up. she wants to be a witch. But it never occurred to me that alongside these delights, she would never climb trees, never run a race, never walk to the shops. These items on my Life List, so deeply assumed that I had never written them down. were suddenly erased. I felt as if the skeleton on which the flesh of my life rested had

been cut out of me. Other people talked of our tragedy". Friends came and grasped my hands, saying they were "so sorry", as they shook their heads from side to side. looking very concerned, slightly ridiculous and horribly sad. I looked back at them, and wondered who and what they were talking about. I did not feel like a tragic heroine, a nobly suffering parent of a child with problems. I felt like a mum. But I realised, then, that the brood of mothers I expected to be part of would never embrace me. I

Five years have passed since

the diagnosis. I still search for that inclusion: I still long to belong. When I meet a parent of an able-bodied child, I know that, as she looks at me and my child, she is storing at her worst nightmare. She both pities and is afraid of us. She is so glad she is not met she is so glad I amthe afflicted one, because there can only be so many of us, and, thankfully, the devil's tinger has hovered above my head. The lear of us is so great that

we are written out of the able-

bodied world. Wherever Hook. my child and I are not there. Reloctantly tackling Toys "R" Us this Christmas, I was the only mother who couldn't see anyone who looked just a little bit like her child grinning cheekily out from the ramparts of packaging. There are no pictures of my daughter in children's magazines, no stories with handicapped heroines, m Teletubbies with wobbly legs and wheelchairs. I now realise. after live years, that the reason I could not imagine our life was hecause I had never seen it belore. However wild all the dreams on my Life List might have been, there was always a real-life example I had come across. I had never had to encounter disability; it had been hidden for me, too.

Now I search out visions of my daughter and myself. When, in Toys "R" Us. I spotted Mat-

new friend Becky, splendid in her sparkly pink wheelchair my heart momentarily soared. But on Becky's box is a charitable slogan - "Share a Smile" - the only such slogan on any toy in the store. My child is always an object of pity. And, as if the wickedness of real life must introde even into toyland. Becky's wheelehair does not fit through the door of Barbie's dream house.

On my daughter's Christmas list was Becky. Maybe she'd get her, maybe she wouldn't. Writing something down makes it no more real than Santa Claus. However many lists you write, can't prevent that lone thunderbolt striking.

My daughter's disability has been liberating. I now know that nothing is meant to be, no blueprint can be tanoned on to the energising anarchism of our lives, no Life List is written in stone. Other people remain certain: "I'm going to Barbados on holiday next year", "I'm not going to get pregnant for a few months", "I'll be promoted in the summer", "It'll be a wonderful wedding". But when I hear them say such things, I feel sorry for them. Bound by their life's blueprint, the childish wonder of the world is lost. Don't they know there are no certainties, only hopes?

Dea Birken is author of Serpent in Paradise (Picador, £16.99).



# OHN

Went to Paz's New Year Eve's Party. Possibly. Dazed and confused. Have lost 48 hours and sheer body-stocking Aunt Sadie sent me for Christmas. Crawled downstairs. Front door off hinges. Mayan temple in garden toppled. Gnomes modelled on members of Hanson Awol. Nipples

Neighbours have left note, dated 1 Jan, threatening to phone Swat team and Anne Atkins. (Left number with them in case of emergencies). Sick as a supermodel after dessert. Did I have a good time?

Forgot annual resolution. Will ponder once vision

Later. Found next door's teenage son comatose in basement. Returned him to worried and unattractive pale parents. Many heartfelt tears and promises of physical violence. Last time I babysit for anyone.

Am glad Andrew is at mother's. Footmarks on bathroom ceiling would take some explaining.

Resolve to resolve as soon as police finish dusting for

Dear Diary,

Anne Atkins rang. Hissy fit to burst. Doesn't appreciate hysterical calls from strangers in the dead of night. Told her that's Telegraph readers for you. Was shocked to hear her take the Lord's name in vain. Apologised for wasting her time: "Well, your field of expertise is missing daughters, not missing sons." Repented the words the second uttered, despite rehearsing them all morning. Atkins cursed like a drill sergeant and slammed down phone. If only people knew!

Will consider resolution moment Jehovah's Witnesses wake up and leave.

Dear Diary.

Found vile, foul-tasting, green, snake-like thing clogging

Do resolution once former Tory Minister Who Cannot Be Named frees himself from leather harness in kitchen. Would help except hands still shaking. Will just have to ring his wife himself.

Dear Diary,

In words of the Blessed Celine, it's all coming back to me now. Remember frightening other boys at Paz's party by acting out scene in I Know What You Did Last Summer where psychopath sneaks into sleeping heroine's boudoir and gives her bad haircut. Can still hear the screams. Then lurched from guest to guest defending 17-year-old son of Cahinet minister caught dealing dope. Really, how else can young put themselves through higher education today? If I were his father I'd blame the Government. Recall reassuring Paz that his new Westwood didn't make him look fat - his fat made him look fat. Never darken doorstep again, etc.

Don't know how I fetched up at Fridge. Do know that when Muscle Mary, whose slingbacks I trod on, shrieked "And who the f\*\*\* do you think you are?" I was stumped for an answer. Finally admitted to being Michael Barrymore. Hate multiple choice questions.

Will fix on resolution once tongue specialist completes

Lynch mob gather in street. Lurk behind net curtains as ringleader - Mrs Tunney, pensioner from number 45 who's always boasting she lives on Pedigree Chum works mob into frenzy (something about "hurn the witch") and promises of Battenherg slices after. They should use the old cow's rock cakes to break the windows while they're at it.

Dear Diary.

Andrew rang. Demanded to know why house was on BBC evening news. Asked whether national or local. Andrew ballistic. Coming back this instant. Tell him, if he has a second, to stop and purchase a small skip.

Says he's going to kill me. Mob swelling. Those near end of the queue - it's a very orderly moh - have brought sleeping bags. little Union Jack flags and bomb-making equipment. Makes

you proud to be British. Resolution after I've made riotous assembly tea.

Andrew arrived. Scattered mob by telling them Fergie: Worrier Princess was starting on telly. World-class rage followed. Was right - footmarks on bathroom ceiling did take some explaining. And why was first-floor loo blocked with Björk CDs? (Dunno. Seemed like a good idea at the time ... a good idea at any time, actually.)

Finally compelled to unbook TV and commit beloved's favourite crime against nature. Bingo. Now souggled up, grunting in sleep and dribbling from mouth. Suddenly feel awfully Marge Simpson: he is truly the wind beneath my duvet. And just look what happens when he leaves me alone. Yawn. Check tongue. Glows in dark. Hmm.

Doh! Wait, wait. Lights on. Nearly forgot. Message/ manifesto/ motto for new year. Must spice up my life.

# Action Man lives, thanks to photo-technology

It is perhaps every small boy's fantasy to be a soldier - the only dlemma being who gets to pay the hero, and who the enemy. The artist Paul Smith has got around this by using thoto-technology - and beoming not just the hero and vilin but also whole platoons of ifantrymen.

Smith, whose work from he "Artists Rifles" series has ist been bought by that patron if modern art, Charles Saatchi, cortrays himself in a variety of state poses, shooting, stabing and dying, some of which oppear somewhat camp.

"My work is intended to

mock the fantasy notions we have about war and the soldier hero," he explains, in a text accompanying the photographs. "Part of its intention is to illustrate the divide between reality and the romanticised vision one has of battle."

Smith displays what he calls his "constructed fantasies" with reference to what created them -plays, comic books, paintings; documentary photographs and war films.

"Acting as every figure within this work, I have courted the military ideal where there are. no individuals, just the unit, brothers in arms," he says.

Smith, who is 28, spent a number of years working as a photographer for the armed forces. His photographs, which he describes as "mainly handshakes and medal presentations", were used in two publications for the Army in Germany - Sixth Sense and Forces Echo.

Occasionally he covered higtraining exercises - the pictures from which gave him the inspiration for the "Army Rifles" series. These he describes as opening up the divide between

the reality and fantasy of war". Smith says that his first idea of what a soldier should be

came from his toy Action Man: and some of the paintings, which feature Action-Man-like poses - look almost humorous. But Smith is keen to stress that he would never mock the

soldiers themselves. "I wish to extend my deepest respect to those who have died in the very real mass earnage that war, in all its forms, brings."

Jenny Blyth, curator of the Saatchi Gallery, commented: Work by young British artists such as Paul Smith confirms that there is life after



# THE INDEPENDEN

#### JANUARY

Rallying Paris-Dakar Rally (to 17th)

5) Football FA Cup third round Athletics IAAF World Cross Country Challenge, Durham Darts Embassy World Professional, Frimley Green (to 11) Golf MacGregor Week, San Roque, Spain (to 10) Hockey DTZ International tournament, Birmingham (to 4) Skiling Men's Alpine World Cup (statom, grand statom), Kraniska Gora, Slovenia (to 4)

[3] Sailing Whithread round the world race, start of fourth Tileg. Sydney-Aucidand (approx. to 9)

5 Siding Women's Alpine World Cup (slalom, giant sialom), Ofterschwang, Germany (to 6)

Football Coca-Cola Cup fifth round
Oslding Men's Alpine World Cup (giant statom), Hinterstoder, Austria

**7Football Coca-Cola Cup fifth round** 

Oskiling Men's Alpine World Cup (statom, super giant Ostatom), Schladming, Austria (to 10)
Swimming World Championships, Perth, Australia (to 18) Table tennis English Open (to [1] Speed skating European Championships, Helsinki (to 11)

Hockey World Cities Indoor Championship, Kelvin (Half, Glasgow (to 11)
Skiling Women's Alpine World Cup (stalom, giant stalom),

Maribor, Slovenia (tol 1)

Figure Skating European Championships, Milan (to 18) Cyclocross British Championships, Birmingham Snooteer Regal Welsh, Newport (to 25)
Speed Steating European Short Track Championships, Budapest (to 18)

Table tennis European Nations Cup, Germany "Siding Women's Alpine World Cup (downhill, super glant shalom), Kitzbühel, Austria (to 18); Men's Alpine World Cup (downhill, sialom, combined), Wengen, Switzerland

Horse racing Victor Chandler Chase, Ascot Railying Monte Carlo Raily (to 21)

(i) Football Euro 2000 draw, Gent, Belgium (ii) Basketball National Cup final, Sheffield

1 9 Tennis Australian Open, Melbourne (co 1/2)
Bowls World Indoor Championships, Presson (to 1/2) 22 Golf Johnnie Walker Classic, Thalland (to 25)

2.3 Siding Women's Alpine World Cup (downhill, giant sialom, super-g), Cortina d'Ampezzo (to 25); Men's Alpine World Cup (downhill, statom, combined), Klozbühai (to 25)

A Football FA Cup fourth round
Achietics IAAF World Cross Challenge, Belfast Rugby union Italy v Scotland, Treviso Speed Stating World Sprint Championships, Berlin (to 25) Boxing WBO Super-middleweight championship, Joe Calzaghe (GB, holder) v Tarick Salmaci (US), Cardiff 25 American Football Superbowl XXXII, San Diego

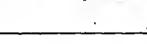
26 Biathlon European Championships, Belarus (to 1/2)

27Squash British National Championships, Manchester (to 2/2)

20 Skiling Men's Alpine World Cup (downhill, super giant skilom), Garmisch Partenkirchen, Germany (to 1/2) 2 OCricket West Indies v England, first Test, Jameica (to 2/2)
Skilling Women's Alpine World Cup (downhill, combined), Are, Sweden (to 1/2)
Golf Heineken Classic, Perth, Australia (to 1/2)

30Swimming Great Britain Grand Prix event, Swansez (to 1/2) Sadminton English National Championships, Haywards Heath (to 1/2); Scottish National Championships (to 1/2) Rugby union European Cup final, Brive (Fr) v Bath (Eng.), Bordeaux

Rugby league Silk Cut Challenge Cup third round (to 1/2)
Sailing Whitbread Round the World race, start of leg five,
Auckland (approx. to 24) Cyclocross World Championships, Denmark (to 1/2)



# **FEBRUARY**

Snooker Benson & Hedges Masters, Wembley (to 8)
Cyclocross World Championships, Denmark 2 Tennis Tokyo Women's Open (to 8); Marseille Open Men's Tournament (to 8)

4 Squash European Champion of Champions, Norway (to 7)

5 Golf South African Open (to 8)

Rallying International Swedish Rally, Karlstad (to 8) 6 Hockey Men's Indoor Finals, Crystal Palace Judo Paris A Tournament (to 8)

Winter Olympics Nagano, Japan (to 22)
Rugby union Five Nations' Championship France v England,
Paris; Ireland v Scotland, Dublin; International Wales v Italy Athletics AAA Indoor Championships, Birmingham (to 8)

OSmooleer Scottish Open, Aberdeen (to 22)

Football England v Chile International friendly (Wembley)

2 Golf Alfred Dunhill South African PGA, Jo'burg (to 15)

2 Cricket West Indies v England, second Test, Port of → Spain (to 1/)

Football FA Cup fifth round

Rugby league Silk Cut Challenge Cup founth round (to 15)

Motor racing Daytona 500, Florida

Athletics BUPA Indoor GP, Birmingham

8 Football Coca-Cola Cup semi-final first leg

20 Hockey European Men's Indoor Champ A Division (St Albans), Hamburg: 8 Division (Menzieshill), Dundee (to 22) Swimming GB Grand Frix event, Leeds (to 22)

Rugby union Five Nations' Championship England v Wales, Twickenham; Scotland v France, Murrayfield Horse racing Tota Eder H'cap S'chase, Newcastle: Colin Davie Persian War Premier Novice Hurdle, Chepstow 22 Football Coca-Cola Cup semi-final second leg

23 Tennis Guardian Direct Cup, Battersea (to 1/3)

25 Athletics IAAF Grand Prix II Melbourne Classic Basketball Belarus v England, Euro Champ, Minsk

26 Snooker Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge, Derby (to 1/3) Golf Dubai Desert Classic (to 1/3); Nissan Open, US (to 1/3) ice hockey Express Superleague Cup final

27Gricket West Indies v England, third Test, Guyana (to 3/3) Athletics European Indoor Championships, Valencia, Spain (to

Hockey European Women's Indoor Championship A Division (Slough & Edinburgh), Russelsheimer, Germany (to 1/3) Rallying Safari Rally, Nairobi (to 2/3) Swimming Great Britain Club Team Championships, Stock-

(1) Rugby league Silk Cut Challenge Cup fifth round Hockey Sultan Azlah Shah Tournament - Men's Stx Nation,

Kuala Lumpur (to 8/3) Horse racing Racing Post S'chase, Kempton Basketball England v Israel, Euro Champ, Manches Stding Men's Alpine World Cup (slalom, giant slalom), Yong South Korea (to 1/3)

Football African Nations' Cup final, Ouagadougou



touch as they begin their defence of the World Cup

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Cricket W Indies v England, 2nd one-day match, Barbados

Tootball European Cup-Winners' Cup semi-finals first leg

LHorse racing Grand National meeting Amoree (to 4)
Equestrianism World Cup jumping final, Sweden Tennis Davis Cup Euro/Africa zone Group 1, second

Fround, GB v Ukraine or Denmark, Newcastle (to 5) Rugby league Super League season begins Hockey Men's Inter league play-offs, Milton Keynes (to 5)

Criclest W Indies v England, 3rd one-day match, St Vincent V Horse racing Grand National, Aintree

Athletics European 10,000m Challenge, Lisbon, Portugal; Fisu Cross Country Championships, Luton Annerican football World League starts

Rowing Sculler's Head of the River race, London Tideway

Cricket W Indies v England, fourth one-day match, St

Rugby union five Nations' Championship Wales v France,

Cycling World Cup Tour of Flanders

Motor racing Bridsh Formula 3 Championship, Silverstone
Hockey Men's cup final, Milton Keynes

9Golf US Masters, Augusta (to 12) Hockey European Six Nations U16/U18 Championship men and women, Milton Keynes (to 13)

jum; European Women's Club Championship A Division

Judo British Open Championships, Birmingham (to 12)

3 Horse racing Irish Grand National, Fairyhouse Motor racing Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car

Oriclest W Indies v England, fifth one-day match, Trinkdad

Rugby union Five Nations' Championship England v Ireland, Twickenham

Curling World Championships, Canada (to 12)

Vincent

Football FA Cup semi-finals

Championship, Thruston

Football European Cup semi-finals first leg

4.1.0			
Brazil, Sc	otland, More	occo, N	orway
Wed 10 June	(St Donks, 4.30)	Breze	v Scottend
Wed 10 June	(Montpellior, 8.0)	Morocco	y Morwey
Tues 16 June	(Bordenze, 4.30)	Scotland	v Norway
Tues 16 June	(Nantos, 5.0)	Brazil	v Morocco
Tues 23 June		Brazi	v Norway
Tues 23 June		Scotland	v Morgeos
GROUP B			
Italy, Chil	e, Cameroon	, Austri	la ·
Thur 11 June	(Bordenux, 4.30)	Italy	v Chille
Thur 11 June	(Roulouse, 8.0)	Cameroon	n v Austria
Wed 17 June	(St Effenne, 4.30)	Chile	v Austria
Wed 17 June	(Montpeller, 8.0)	thely	v Cameroon
Tues 23 June	(St Denis, 3.0)	Italy	y Attetria
Tues 23 Jans	(Nantes, 3.0)	Chile	v Cameroon
GROUP C			
France, So	uth Africa, Sa	udi Arat	ola, Denmark
Fri 12 June	(tens, 4,30)	Saud! Ans	bia v Denmark
Fri 12 June	(Maraelles, 8.0)	France	v South Africa
Thur 18 June	(Toulouse, 4.30)		ca v Denmark
Thur 18 June	(St Dents, 8.0)	France	v Saudi Arabia
Wed 24 June	(Lyon, 3.0)	France	v Denmark
Wed 24 June	(Bordenox, 3.0)	SQUET AIN	ca v Saudi Arabia
GROUP D			
Spain, Nig	jerla, Paragu	ay, Bul	garla
Fri 12 June	(Montpelder, 1,30)	Paregusty	v Bulgaria
Set 13 June	(Nantes, 1.90)	Spein	v Nigeria
Fri 19 June	(Paris, 4.30)	Nigeria	v Bugarla
Fri 19 June	(St Etlenne, 8.0)	Spain	v Paraguay

GROUP A

A Foot	thali Uefa Cup se racing Cra	semi-final	s second leg	
THor	se racing Cra	en meetir	ig, Newman	ket (so 16)
	Men's dubs E			. 170
ice hocker	y World Cham	niooshins	ps, span (us	overola
lessenice or	nd 1 jublians (to	24)	n poor on	or ver man,

Trootball European Cup semi-finals second leg Equestrianism Volvo World Cup final, Helsinki (co 19) 6 Football Euro Cup-Winners' Cup semi-final second leg Golf Cannes Open, France (to 19)

7Cricket County championship starts

 Athletics IAAF World Road Relay Championship,
 Manaus, Brazil (to 19) Horse racing Scottish Grand National, Ayr Rugby union County Championship final (Twickenham) Snooker Embassy World Championship, Sheffield (to 4/5) Gymnastics British Women's Teams event, Bognor Hockey Women's inter league play-offs, Milton Keynes (to 19)

Rugby union Scottish Tennents Cup semi-finals
Football Auto Windscreens Shield final, Wembley Railying Spanish Raily, Lloret de Mar (to 22) Cycling World Cup Liège-Bastogne-Liège Sailing Whitbread Round the World race, start of seventh les. Fort Lauderdale (approx. to 22)

20 Tennis Monte Carlo Open (to 26) 22Football International friendlies England opponents
that; Scotland v Finland; U-16 European Champi-

onships, Scotland (to 8/5) Golf Turespana Masters (to 26) 25 Gymnastics Men's Euro Championship, Russia (to 26) Squash European Team Championships, Finland (to 26);

O'Hockey European Men's Cup-Winners' Cup A Division (Teddington), Neth, Women's A Division (Hightown), Bel-World Doubles Championship, Canada (to 27) (Slough), Southgate: Men's B Division (Reading), Belgium (to 13) 25 Horse racing Whitbread Gold Cup, Sandown
25 Cycling World Cup Amstel Gold Motor racing Argentinian Grand Prtx, Buenos Aries

2 Cycling World Cup Paris-Roubaix

26 Athletics London Marathon
26 Motor racing San Marino Grand Prix, knola; Auto
Trader RAC British Touring Car Championship, Silverstone;
British Formula 3 Championship, Brands Hatch Basketball World Championship finals

30 Gymmastics Women's European Championships, St Openersburg (to 3/5) Cycling Tour of Lancashire (to 4/5) Motorcycling Superbike World Championship round three, Golf Conte of Florence Italian Open, Milan (to 3/5)

## MARCH

Hockey British Aerospace U-18 Women's Schools Champi-

7 Tennis Evert Cup, California (to 14)

3 Football Uefa Cup quarter-finals, first leg (Atletico Madrid v Aston Villa)

4 Football European Cup quarter-final first leg (Monaco v Manchester United) Booding ABA finals, Birmingham

5 Football European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final first leg (Real Betis v Chebea) Golf Qatar Masters, Doha; Doral-Ryder Open, Miami (to 8) Winter Paralympic Games Japan (to 14)

Football FA Cup sixth round Rugby union Five Nations' Championship France v Ireland, Paris: Wales v Scotland, Wembley Rowing Women's Head of the River race, London Tideway Snooker Thalland Masters, Bangkok (to 15)
Stding Women's Alpine World Cup (downhill, super giant slalom), Morzine, France (to 8); Men's Alpine World Cup (downhill, super giant slalom), Kvitijell, Norway (to 8)
Table tennis Senior National Championships, Bath (to 8) Synchronised Swimming National Championships, Halifax

Motor racing Australian Grand Prix, Melbourne

9 Tennis Newsweek Champions Cup, California (to 15) Rowing Schools' Head of the River race, London Tide Badminton All-England Championships, Birmingham (to 16)

OHocloey Varsky match, Milton Keynes
Skiling Women's Europa Cup (stalom, giant stalom), Nevis Range, Cairngom, Scotland Skling Alpine World Cup Men's and Women's finals (downfill, giant statom, super-giant statom, combined), Crans Montana, Switzerland (to 15)

2 Cricket West Indies v England, fourth Test, Barbados (to

Golf Moroccan Open, Agadir (to 15); Honda Classic, Fort Lauderdale, Florida (to 15) Billiards World Matchplay, Liverpool (to 16)

3 Speed steating World Championships, Netherlands (to 15) Rugby league Sik Cur. Challenge Cup quarter-finals (to 15)
"Horse racing Imperial Cup, Sandown
Swimming Fina World Cup, Sheffield (to 15)

Sailing Whitbread Round the World race - start of sixth leg (00 2/4 approx)

Motorcycling Superbike World Championship round Done, Indonesia

6 Ice skatting British Precision Team Championships, 6 Bracknell (to 17) Tennis Lipton Championships, Florida (to 29)

7 Football Uefa Cup quarter-final, second leg. (Aston Villa v Adetico Madrid) Horse racing Cheltenham Festival (to 19); Champion Hurdle, Cheltenham Billiards British Open, Chesterfield (to 22)

Athletics World Road Relay Championships, Brazil (to 19)

Golf Portuguese Open, Lisbon (to 22); Bay Hill Invitational, Orlando, Florida (to 22) Horse racing Cheitenham Gold Cup

20Cricket West Indies v England, fifth Test, Antigua (to 24) Diving National Masters Competitions, Sheffield (to 22) Speed Skating Short Track World Championships, Vienna (to

Rugby union Five Nations' Championship Ireland v Wales, Dublin Rowing Tideway Head of the river race, London
Athletics IAAF World Cross Country Championships, Moroc-

Horse racing Midlands Grand National, Utroxeter Cycling World Cup Milan-San Remo Ice hockey National League play-off finals (to 22)

Motor racing British Formula 3 Championship, Donington Park Motorcycling Superbike World Championship round two, Philip Island, Australia

25 Football International friendlies, England's opponents total control of the Colombia Squash British Open, Birmingham (to 5/4)

Women's Gymnastics GB v Spain, Guildford Hatch (to 29)

Rhythmic Gymnastics British Championships and Internacional, Bletchley ice hockey Superleague play-off final, Manchester Judo Commonwealth Tournament, Edinburgh

2 Cricket West Indies v England, first one-day match, Bar-2 bados Football Coca-Cola Cup final Motor racing Brazilian Grand Prix, Interlagos; British Formula Championship, Thruxton Figure Steating World Championships. Minneapolis (to 5/4)

3 | Football Usta Cup semi-finals first leg Snooker British Open, Plymouth (to 12/4)

Prootball European Cup quarter-final second leg (Man-Ochester United v Monaco)

Prootball European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final sec-ond leg (Chelsea v Real Betis)

Rugby union Five Nations' Championship Scotland v England, Murrayfield England, Murrayfield
Gymnastics Men's and Women's Welsh Championships
Rallying Portuguese Rally, Figuera da Foz (to 25)
Rowling Women's Oxford and Cambridge boat race, Henley

24 Smooker Benson & Hedges Irish Masters (to 29)

26 Horse racing Opening of the Flat Season

Country of the Flat Season

2 7 Rugby union Hong Kong Sevens (to 29)
Athletics IAAF Grand Prix II All Africa Invitational, Jo burg Speed skating World Single Distance Championships, Canada; Short track World Team Championship, Italy (both to 29) Motorcycling MCN British Superbike Championship, Brands

(in Rowing Oxford v Cambridge University Boat Race Rugby union Tedey's Bitter Cup semi-finals Rugby league Sifk Cut Challenge Cup semi-finals (to 29) Horse racing Lincoln H'cap, Doncaster: Dubai World Cup

MAY

Thorse racing 2,000 Guineas, Newmarket Rugby league Silk Cut Challenge Cup final Rugby union Women's World Cup, Amsterdam (to 16) Baskethall Budweiser Championship finals, Wembley (to 3)

Horse racing 1,000 Guineas, Newmarket Athletics Rio de Janeiro GP Footbali CSI FA Women's Cup final Salling Whitbread round the world race, start of eighth leg, Baltimore, US (approx. to 16)
Motorcycling Spanish Grand Prix, Jerez

Tennis Italian Women's Open (to 10)

Motor racing British Touring Car Championship, Donngton; British Formula 3 Championship, Oulton Park Railying Raily of Corsica 6 Football Uefa Cup final, Paris

Golf Peugeot Spanish Open (to 10)
Equestrian Badminton Horse Trials (to 10) Athletics International meeting, Doha ORhythmic Gymnastics World Group Championships, Spain (to 10) Basketball NBL Championship finals, Men and Women,

Manchester (co 10) (http://www.com/Rugby union Tedey's Bitter Cup final, Twickenham; Scottish Tennents Cup final, Murrayfield Athletics Osaka GP Football FA Vase final Modern Triathlon British Championships (to 10)

Fencing British Foil Championships (to 10) OF FOOTball Nationwide League semi-final play-offs first. Dieg: FA Umbro Trophy final Motor racing Spanish Grand Prix, Barcelona Motorcycling Superbike World Championship, round four,

Hockey Women's Cup final, Milton Keynes Tennis Italian Men's Open (to 17)

7 Horse racing York Dante meeting (to 14)

3 Football European Cup-Winners' Cup final, Stock-holm; Nationwide League semi-final play-olfs second leg Equestrian Royal Windsor Horse Show (to 17) 4 Golf B&H Int. Open, Oxfordshire (to 17)

Judo European Championships, Oviedo, Spain (to 17)

5 Horse racing Lockinge Stakes, Newbury
Golf Brabazon Trophy, Liverpool (to 17)
Gymnastics World Aerobic Championships, Italy (to 17) Football FA Cup final: Scottish FA Cup final Rugby union Middlesex sevens, Twickenham Cycling Giro d'Italia (to 7/6) Fencing British Epée Championship (to 17)

Canoeing National Sprint Regatta, Nottingham (to 17)

Motor racing British Touring Car Championship, Brands Hatch; British Formula 3 Championship, Silver-

8 Tennis ATP Tour Championship, Düsseldorf (to 24)

20 Football European Cup final, Amsterdam Railying Argentinian Raily, Cordoba (to 23) Hockey Men's and Women's World Cups, Utrecht, Netherlands (to 31) 2 | Cricket England v South Africa, first one-day match, The Oval

Equestrian Windsor Horse Trials (to 24) Sailing Rover Series, Clyde (to 26) 22 Football Nationwide Third Division play-off final Golf Volvo PGA Championship, Wentworth (to 25) Sailing Whitbread round the world race, start of final leg,

La Rochelle, France. (Ends Southampton, approx. 24/5) 23 Cricket England v South Africa, second one-day march, Old Trafford Football International friendly England v Saudi Arabia Horse racing Irish 1,000 Guineas, Curragh Rugby union Swalec Cup final, Cardiff

Cycling Prudential Tour of Britain (to 31) 2 Cricket England v South Africa, third one-day match, it readingley Motor racing Monaco Grand Prix; British Formula 3 Championship, Croft
Football Nationwide Second Division play-off final; Interna-

tional friendly Chile v Scotland, US Horse racing Irish 2,000 Guineas, Curragh 25 Football Nationwide First Division play-off final Tennis French Open, Paris (to 7/6) Motor racing Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car

Championship, Outton Park 26 Horse racing Brigadier Gerard Stakes, Sandown
Basketball Women's World Championship, Germany

 $(\infty 7/6)$ 27 Cricket B&H Cup quarter-finals

28 Gymnastics European Championships (to 31)

OAthletics IAAF Grand Prix event, Hengelo, Netherlands 7 Golf Deutsche Bank - SAP Open TPC of Europe, Hamburg (co 1/6) Hockey European Men's Club Championship C Division, Glasgow; Women's B Division, Swansea (to 1/6) Swimming Speedo Super Grand Prix, Sheffield (to 31); Great Britain Masters Championships, Glasgow (to 31) 3 OF corthall England International friendly, opponents that Athletics Seville GP

Rowing Fisa World Cup, Munich, Germany (to 31) Table tennis Grand Prix finals, Bath (to 31) 3 Athletics Eugene (US) GP

THE WO

GROUP E Natherlands, Balgium Sat 13 June (Lyon 4.30) (St Denis, 8.0) (Bordiaux, 4.3. (Marajates, 8.0) (St Ethrine, 3.1. Sat 13 June Set 20 June Sat 20 June Thur 25 Jun

Thur 25 Jun GROUP United Ist

Germany Sun 14 Jun (St Ellenne, 4. Mon 15 Jun Sun 21 June Sun 21 June (Paris. 8.0) (Lens, 1.30) (Lyon, 8.0) (Montpellier, 8. Thur 25 June Thur 25 June

GROUP Romania, Colombia Mon 15 June Mon 15 June (Lyon, 4.30) Men 22 June (Morspeller 4.: Mon 22 June (Toulouse, 8.0) Fri 28 June (St Denis, 8.0) (Lene, 8.0)

GROUP H Argentina Japan, Ja Sun 14 June Sun 14 June Names, 1.30 Paris, 4.30) Bordes, 1.36 Sal 20 Juna rtes, 1.30) Sun 21 June

Solf Bridsi Inship, Mu Tenis Surrey onsips, Surbit Moorcycling Atletics St I Saing Hoya Harpshire (to 4 tricket Er

Gol Evian Ma Alaro Eryfish (to Attetics Eur Evers, Italy (tr Hocey Europ Cup Qualifier, 5 Hyrse rac Rallyng Acro 6 Hrse rac Caneing Na Nottigham (t Monte Hors racing Chandy Athleics Mo Motocycling Charm md st 8 Tenis Ste Ship Quer 14): D5 Clas

9Cnil B OFootba Equest Horse 7 Gol Danish C Corpaq Euro Nothumberla Athleti

Rugby Motor Car Ch Brith F3 Cha Spedway Br Trac Racing ( Amrican fo Saing Intern Charpionship Ternis I piorhips, Bour bledn qualifyir Horse Second `

GolUS Oper Madira Island Rugby England Sout Africa v kudcScomish Rowng Worr 2 Cycling Worl Champ 2 Tennis Zonships 2 GG Pei 26Cycling

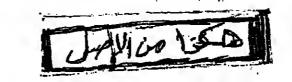
Rugby England Wals, Prett Horse racing Place, Newcas Anleics Spe Legue, Sc Pet 20 Horse i Mctor racing

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# I calendar of world sport 1998

#### RLD CUP

, South Korea, Mexico South Korea v Mexico Nethorlands v Beiglum Belgium v Medco Netherlands v South Koree Nethorlands v Medico

ite. Yugoslavia, Iran

Germany v US

England, Tunisia

Romania v England Romania v Tunisla

amaica, Croatia

SECOND ROUND Saturday 27 June: Game 2 (Marselliee, 3.30) Group B winner v Group A runner-up Saturday 27 Juna: Game 1 (Paris, 8.0) Group A winner y Group B runner-up Sunday 26 June: Game 3 (Lens. 3.30) Group C winner v Group D runn Sunday 26 June: Geme 4 (St Denie, 8.0) Group D winner v Group C runner-up Mondey 29 June: Game 6 (Montpelliar, 3.30) Group F winner v Group E runner-up Monday 29 June: Game 5 (Toulouse, 8.0)

Group E winner v Group F runner-up Tuesday 30 June: Geme 7 (Bordagux, 3.30) Group G winner v Group H runner-up Tuesday 30 June: Game 8 (SI Etienne, 8.0) Group H winner v Group G runner-up QUARTER-FINALS 3 July: Game B (St Denis, 3.30) Game 2 wither v Game 3 winner 3 July: Game A (Nantee, 8.0)

> 4 July: Game C (Mereelliee, 3.30) Game 5 winner v Game 8 winner 4 July: Geme D |Lyon, 8.0) Game 6 winner v Game 7 winner SEMI-FINALS 7 July (Merselliee, 8.0) Game A witner v Game C witner 8 July (St Denis, 8.0) Game B winner v Game D winner THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF

11 July, Paris (8.0) FINAL 12 July, St Denie (8.0) (All times BST; local times one hour later)



England will be hoping that Alan Shearer is back to full fitness in time to lead their attack in France

# SEPTEMBER

Athletics Berlin GP Canoeing Flatwater World Championships, Hungary (to 6) 3 Equestrianism Burghley Horse Trials (to 6)
Golf Canon European Masters, Switzerland (to 6)

Cricket NatWest Trophy final, Lord's Athletics IAAF Grand Prix final, Moscow Rowing World Championships, Cologne, Germany (to (3) Cycling Tour of Spain (to 27)
Triathlon Long distance World Championships, Sado Island, japan; World Championships, Switzerland (both to 6)

@ Motorcycling Superbike World Championship round 12; 

ONetherlands

QGolf Home Internationals, Royal Porthozwi (to 11)

OEquestrianism Blenheim Horse Trials (to 13)
Golf British Masters (venue tba) (to 13) Commonwealth Games, Malaysia (to 21)

Athletics IAAF World Cup, Johannesburg (to 13) Canoeing Statom World Cup finals, Spain (to 13) Horse racing St Leger, Doncaster

Angling National Championships Division 1, Thames

Motor racing Italian GP, Monza; Brit F3 Champ, Thruston Auto Trader RAC Brit Touring Car Champ, Oulton Park Mountain biking World Championships, Canada (to 20) Judo Heart of England Championships Hurling All-Ireland final

4 Tennis Samsung Open, Bournemouth (to 20)

5 Football Uefa Cup first round, first leg-

6 Football European Champions' League opening matches

**7Football** European Cup-Winners' Cup first round, first leg Golf Trophée Lancôme, France (to 20) Horse racing Timeform Harry Rosebery Trophy, Ayr

Scotf Solheim Cup, Dublin, Ohio, US (to 20)
Railying Indonesian Rally (to 20) OHorse racing Gold Cup. Ayr; Irish St Leger, Curragh J'Cycling Grand Prix des Nations, France illing RYA Women's National Champ, Graffam Water (to 20)

Croquet All England final Motor racing Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car Championship, Silverstone Angling Boat angling World Championships, Slovenia (to 20/10)

23 Equestrianismism Horse of the Year Show, Wembley Arena (to 27)

24 Golf Linde German Masters (to 27)

2 Horse racing Queen Elizabeth II Scakes, Ascot Angling National Championships Division 5 2 7 Motor racing Luxembourg Grand Prix, Nurburgring, British Formula 3 Championship, Spa-Francorchamps Rugby league Super League season ends Horse racing Fillies' Mile, Ascot Athletics World Half Marathon Championships, Zurich

Gaelic football All-Ireland final 28 Tennis Grand Stam Cup, Munich (to 4/10)

29Football Uefa Cup first round, second leg Horse racing Cheveley Park Stakes, Newmarket 30Football European Champions' League matches

#### UNE

1 Amateur Champirfield (to 6) Grass Court Champi-20n (to 7) ! Isle of Man TT (to 12) Jenis GP, France Royal Lymington Cup.

gland v South Africa ighaston (to 8) sters (women) (to 7); Open, Hanbury Manor

opean Cup Combined 2 5} pean Men's Nations

Dundee (to 11) ing The Oaks, Epsom Rome GP polis Rally, Athens (to 9) ing The Derby, Epsoming Le Mans 24hr (to 7)

ing Canadian Grand Prix du Jockey Club,

tional Sprint Regatta,

scow GP Superbike World c. Nürburgring & Artois Championn's Club, London (to kc, Birmingham (to (4) kH, up semi-finals IAAI: GP, Slovakia II World Cup, France see details above) rianism Bramham rials (to 14) pen (women) (to 14); pean Grand Prix, nd (to 14)

union South Africa v racing British Touring .mp. Donington Park rash Individual World hampionship atball World Bowl ational 5.5 European

zs Helsinki GP

i. Cowes Vottingham Open (to ct is Insurance Chamnemouth (to 20); Wimg, Roehampton (to 18) racing Royal Ascot Ascot (to 19) England v South Africa Test, Lord's (to 22) . San Francisco (to 21); Open (to 21) union New Zealand v first Test, Dunedin: Ireland, Pretoria en's Henley (to 21) Isle of Man Week ycling Superbike and 7, Misano, Italy

(to 5/7) rgel Open de France. , 28)

Manx International union New Zealan

Auckland; South Africa

! Northumberland r European Cup Super ersburg, Russia (to 28) racing Irish Derby,

Auto Trader RAC Car Champ, Croft

BY NICK HARRIS

issible care has in the compilation Nibject to change

## JULY

Rowing Henley Royal Regatta (to 5) Athletics Paris GP

Criciant England v South Africa third Test, Old Trafford (to 6) Golf US Women's Open, Kohler, Wisconsin, US (to 5); Murphy's Irish Open, Dublin (to 5)

Rugby union South Africa v England, Cape Town
Horse racing Coral-Eclipse Stakes, Sandown Canoeing National Sprint Championships Regatta, Nottingham (to 5) Angling National Championships Division 3, Milron

Cycling British Road Race Championship (Dudley)
Athletics Linz (Austria) GP Motorcycling British Grand Prix, Donington Park, Su-perbike World Championship, round eight, Brazil Modern Pentathlon European Championships, Mill-

Equestrianism Royal International Horse Show, Hickstead (to 12) Solf Gulfstream Loch Lomond World Invitational, (to

9Horse racing Ladbroke Bunbury Cup. Newmarket Swimming National Championships, including Com-monwealth Games team selection/trials, Sheffield (to 12) ORowing Fisa World Cup, Lucerne, Switzerland (to

Cricket B&H Cup final, Lord's [] Cycling Tour de France (to 2/8) Motor racing British Formula 3 Championship, Silver-

Motor racing British Grand Prix, Silverstone
Horse racing Irish Oaks, Curragh Motorcycling Superbike World Championship round

Croquet Open Championships, Hurlingham (to 19) 4 Equestrianism Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate (to i6)

5 Athletics Nice GP

6 Golf Open Championship, Royal Birkdale (to 19)
Sailing Cutty Sark Tall Ships Race, Falmouth

7 Rowing National champlonships, Strathdyde (to 19) Athletics Bislett Games, Oslo Tennis Davis Cup World Group, second round

Salling Cowes Week (to 8)
Archery World Field Championships, Austria (to 10)
Angling Nat Women's Champs, Trent & Mersey Canal
Golf Curtis Cup, Minnesota (to 2)

Rowing Junior World Championships, Ottenschiern, Austria (to 9)

Gricket England v 5 Africa 5th Test, Headingley (to 10)
Golf McDonald's WPGA Championship of Europe,
Gleneagles (to 9); Czech Open (to 9)

7Speedway British Individual World Track Racing

(iii) Football Charity Shield, Wembley

Hockey European Women's U21 Nations Cup A
Division, Belfast (to 16)

Squash World Masters Games, Portland, US (to 22)

Football Uefa Cup second qualifying round, first leg

Equestrianism Hickstead Derby (to 16)

Lytham & 5t Annes (to 16)

Athletics Cologne GP

onships, Garcombe Park (to 16)

2 Cricket Natwest Trophy second semi-final 2 Football European Cup 2nd qual round, first leg Athletics Zurich GP

3 Golf US PGA Championship, Seattle, Washington (to 16); Westabix Women's British Open, Royal

Football European Cup-Winners' Cup qual round, first

4 Cricket Triangular Tournament South Africa v Sri Lanka, Trent Bridge

Football Premier League season starts
Equestrianism British Horse Trials Champi-

Motor racing Hungarian Grand Prix, Budapest: Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car Championship,

Bowls England National Championships for Men, Royal

Cricket Triangular Tournament England v Sri Lanka, OLord's

Cricket Natwest Trophy first semi-final Equestrianism Aachen Horse Show, Germany

Football Nationwide league season starts
Cycling World Cup San Sebastian Classic

5 Equestrian Dublin Horse Show (to 9) Athletics Stockholm GP

Championship

Athletics Monte Carlo GP

Swimming European Long Distance Open Water. Swimming Cup, Nottingham Sailing Traditional Boat Rally, Henley-on-Thames (to 19) Angling National Championships Division 2, Middle

20 Salling NSSA National Regatta, Datchet (to 24)

Modern Pentathion Women's World Championships, Perpignan, France (to 25)

23 Cricket England v South Africa fourth Test, Trent Bridge (to 27) Golf Chrysler Open, Sweden (women) (to 26); Dutch Open (to 26)

24 Athletics AAA Champs, Birmingham (to 26)

2 FHorse racing King George VI and Queen Biza-beth Diamond Stakes, Ascot Rallying Rally of New Zealand, Auddand (to 28) Motor racing Austrian Grand Prix, Auto
OTrader RAC British Touring Car Championship, Snetterton

Rallying Rally of Finland 7 Cycling British Track Championships, Manchester

28Cricitet NatWest Trophy quarter-finals
Horse racing Goodwood five-day meeting

29Horse racing Sussex stakes, Goodwood Basketball Men's World Champlonship, Athens, Football European Cup first qualifying round, second leg; Uefa Cup first qualifying round, second leg

30Golf Du Maurier Classic, Ontario, Canada (to 2/B); Volvo Scandinavian Masters, Stockholm

Horse racing Weatherbys Super Sprint, Newbury

Athletics Sheffield GP

22 Football European Cup first qualifying round, first leg. Uefa Cup first qualifying round, first leg

Mountain biking British Championships

(to 2/8) Athletics World Junior Championships, Annecy, France

3 | Motorcycling World Superbike, Brands Hatch (to 2/8)

# OCTOBER

Equestrianism World Games, Italy (to 11) Horse racing Newmarket October meeting, (to 3) Football European Cup-Winners' Cup first round, second legs

7) Judo Welsh Championships, Cardiff
2 Sailing Royal Yachting Association Multihui. Youth Championships, Weymouth (to 4)

Cycling World Cup Paris-Tours
If Horse racing Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Longdramp Motor racing British Formula 3 Championship, Silvers Motorcycling Superbike World Championship, round 13, Japan Fencing World Championships, Switzerland (to 11)

Cycling World Road Race and Time Trial Championships, Netherlands (to 11) 8Golf Alfred Dunhill Cup, St Andrews (to 11)

**QTrampolining World Championships, Sydney** 

Rallying Rally of Italy, San Remo (to (4)

Motor racing Portiguese Grand Prox. Estorii (provisional) Motorcycling Superbike World Championship round 14,

2 Judo British Closed Championships, Cardiff (to 13)

5 Gotf World Macch Play Championship, Wentworth (to 18) Cycling World Cup Tour of Lombardy
Horse racing Dubai Champion Stakes, Newmarket
Hilling Eric Twiname final, Derwent Reservoir (to 18)

Judo European Team Championships, Austria (to 18) 1 9Karate World Championships, Brazil (to 25) Baseball World Series starts

20 Football Uefa Cup second round, first leg matches

2 | Football European Champions' League matches 22 Football European Cup-Winners' Cup second round, first leg matches

Horse racing Racing Post Trophy, Doncaster

26 Tennis Eurocard Open, Stuttgart (to 1/11)

Motocross Weston Beach Race (to 1/11)
Angling Men's and Women's Shore Angling World Championships, Langeland, Germany

#### **NOVEMBER**

Motor racing Japanese Grand Prix, Suzuka Squash World Women's Open, Stutt 7 Tennis Paris Indoor Championships (to 8)

3 Horse racing Melbourne Cup, Australia
Football Uefa Cup second round, second leg matches
Volleyball Women's World Championships, Japan (to 12) Squash Women's World Open, Germany (to 8) 4 Football European Champions' League matches

Golf Subaru Sarazen World Open, Atlanta (to 8)
Rallying API Rally, Australia (to 8)
Football European Cup-Winners' Cup second round, 2nd legs Squash Men's World Open, Malaysia (co 9)

Judo Junior National Championships, Sheffield (to 8)
Horse racing Tote Credit November Handicap, Doncaster; Breeders Cup, Churchill Downs, US

QSquash Women's World Team Championships, Germany 3 Volleyball Men's World Championships, Japan (to 29)

6 Gymnastics Women's British Championships, Guildford Railying Raily of Australia

Rowing Four's Head of the River Race, London Tide-

Gymnastics Men's British Artistic Champs (provisional) I 6 Tennis WTA Tour Chase Champs, NY (to 22); ATP Tour Doubles Championship, Hartford, US (to 22)

7 Tennis Guardian Direct National Championships, Telford (to 22) J Golf World Cup, Auckland (to 22); PGA European Tour Qualifying School Finals (to 24) Badminton Scottish International Championships (to 22)

Rallying Network Q RAC Rally, Chektenham (to 24)

23 Tennis ATP Tour Championship, Hannover (to 29)

24Football Uefa Cup third round, first leg matches

25 Football European Champions' League matches

2 (Studo Great Britain International A Tournament, Birm-Dingham (to 29) Horse racing Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup Handlcap Steeplechase, Newbury Modern Biathlon Bridsh Championship

#### Learnington Spa (to 29) Cycling World Cup International Classic, Leeds SCricket Triangular Tournament England v South Africa, Edgbaston

Motor racing German GP Hodenheim: Auto Trad-er RAC British Touring Car Champ, Thruscon Motorcycling Superbike World Championship round ten. Brands Hatch Athletics European Championships, Budapest, (to 23) Horse racing juddmonte international Stakes, York

**AUGUST** 

Motorcycling Ulster GP (to 22) Horse racing Tote Ebor, York 3 Bowls England National Championships for Women, Royal Learnington Spa (to 15) 20 Cricket Triangular Tournament final, Lord's Equestrianismism British Show Jumping, Hick-

Golf Compaq Open, Sweden (women) (to 23); Euro-pean Open, Dublin (to 23) 2 | Rallying Neste Rally, Finland (to 23)

Powerboat racing Poole-Needles Trophy

22Sailing Largs Regatta Week, Scotland
Angling National Championships Division 4, OCycling British circuit race championships, Bury

24 Motor racing British Formula 3 Championship.
Pembrey 25 Football Uefa Cup second qualifying round, second leg

Athletics Lausanne GP 26 Cycling World Track Championships, France (to 29) Football European Cup second qualifying round, second

27Cricket England v Sri Länka one-off Test, The Oval (to 31) Football European Cup-Winners' Cup qualifying round, Golf BMW International Open, Munich (to 30) 20 Motorcycling Marox GP (to 4/9)
Sailing International Festival of the Sea.

Portsmouth Harbour (to 31) Athletics Brussels GP Motor racing Belgian Grand Prix, Spa Francor-champs (tobacco sponsorship allowing); British Formula 3 Championship, Donington Park Motorcycling Superbike World Championship, round II. Austria

Motocross British Sidecar World Championship Powerboat racing Cowes Classic 3 | Tennis US Open, New York (to 13/9) Rowing World Championships, Cologne (to 6/9) Motor racing Auto Trader RAC British Touring Car

Cycling British Women's Road Race Championship,

Championship, Brands Hatch

4 Tennis Davis Cup final (to 6)

OF Cootball Uefa Cup third round, second leg Rugby union Varsity Match, Twickenham 9 Football European Champions' League matches Ice skating National Championships, Hull (to 13)

FRowing Putney to Mortlake Women's and Men's Thames World Sculling Challenge

Golf President's Cup, Royal Melbourne, Australia

Swimming Euro short-course champs, Sheffield (to 13)

Judo British Closed Men's and Women's Champi-Conships (to 13)

Athletics Spar European Cross Country Champion Ships, Ferrara, Italy

75wimming British Championships, Glasgow (to 20) Equestrian Olympia Show Jumping Championships

26 Horse racing King George VI, Kempton 28 Horse racing Welsh National, Chepstow

# THE YEAR'S MAJOR EVENTS

European Cup-Winners' Cup final 13 May

European Cup final 20 May Uefa Cup final 6 May

Coca-Cola Cup final 29 Mar

FA Cup final 16 May

US Masters 9-12 Apr

US Open 18-21 Jun

The Open 16-19 Jul

Horse Racing Grand National 4 Apr

Derby 6 km

**DECEMBER** 

London Marathon 26 Apr European Champs, Budapest 18-23 Aug

Melaysia | 1-2| Sep West Indies v England First Test, Jamaica 29 Jan-2 Feb Second Test, Trinidad 13-17 Feb Third Test, Guyana 27 Feb-3 Mar

Commonwealth Games

Fourth Test, Barbados 12-16 Mar Fifth Test, Antigua 20-24 Mar England v South Africa First Test, Edgbaston 4-8 Jun Second Test, Lord's (8-22 jun Third Test, Old Trafford 2-6 Jul Fourth Test, Trent Bridge 23-27 Jul.

Fifth Test, Headingley 6-(0 Aug

England v Sri Lanka The Oval 27-31 Aug

Benson & Hedges Cup final, Lord's 11 Jul

NatWest Trophy final, Lord's S Sep

Tour de France, I ( Jul-2 Aug

Henley Regatta 1-5 jul

Motor Racing British Grand Prix Silverstone 12 Jul Rowing University Boat Race 28 Mar

US PGA Championships 13-(6 Aug

Rugby League Challenge Cup Final, Wembley 2 May Rugby Union Five Nations' Championship France v England, Paris 7 Feb Ireland v Scotland, Dublin 7 Feb

Scotland v France, Murrayfield 21 Feb France v Ireland, Paris 7 Mar Wales v Scotland, Wembley 7 Mar-Ireland v Wales, Dublin 21 Mar Scotland v England, Murrayfield 22 Mar England v Ireland, Twickenham 4 Apr Wales v France, Wembley 5 Apr

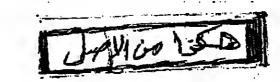
Tour Tests New Zealand v England Dunedin 20 Jun New Zealand v England Auckland 27 Jun South Africa v England, Cape Town 4 Jul

European Cup final Bordeaux 31 Jan Tedey's Bitter Cup final, Twidenham 9 May Scottish Cup final, Murrayfield 9 May Swalec Cup final, Cardiff 23 May

World Championship 18 Apr-4 May

Australian Open, Melbourne 19 Jan-1 Feb French Open, Paris 25 May-7 Jun Wimbledon 22 Jun-5 Jul US Open, New York 31 Aug-13 Sep Davis Cup final 4-6 Dec

Winter Olympics Nagano, Japan 7-22 Feb



(PLEASE CHECK TIMES WITH VENUES)

ABC BAKER STREET (0171-935 9772) Home Alone 3 1.10pm, 3.15pm it's A Wonderful Life 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm fidential 5.20pm, 8.10pm ABC PANTON STREET (0171-930 0631)

The Game 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 6.10pm LA. Confidential 2pm, 5pm, 8pm Mrs Brown 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm Wilde 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.20pm ASC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) Chasing Arry 1.15pm, 3.25pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm G.I. Jane 3.30pm, 8.15pm Keep

The Aspidistra Flying 1.15pm, 6.05pm SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0171-836 6279) Chasing Amy 2.15pm, 5.15pm (not Tue/Wed), 8.15pm Wilde 1,05pm, 3.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm

**ABC SWISS CENTRE (0171-439 4470)** L'Appartement 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Marius Et Jeannette 1pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.55pm Ma Vie En Rose 1.10pm, 3.10m, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm Will it Sace For Christmas? (Y-Aura-Til De La Neige A Noel?) 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 8.20pm, 8.50pm

ASC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0171-636 6148) Spiceworld - The Movie 1.15pm, 3.25pm, 5.35pm, 7.45pm, 9.55pm Starship Troopers 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Tenterrow Never Dies 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

BARBICAN CINEMA (0171-382 7000) Regeneration 6.40cm Spiceworld - The Movie 11am (Sat), 3cm (Fri-Sun), 6.15cm The Wings Of The Dove 3cm (Sur/Mon),

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) The Tango Lesson 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm,

**CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498** 2242) The Borrowers 12.45pm Starship Troopers 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9pm The Sweet Hereafter Sun 1.45pm Tomorrow Never Dies 4.15pm, 9.15pm The Wings Of The Cove 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.15pm,

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) The Wings Of The Dove 1.45pm (not Sun), 4om. 8.15pm, 8.30pm CURZON PHOENIX (0171-369 1721) Writter On The Wind 2.15pm (not Sun).

4.25pm, 6.35pm, 8.45pm CURZON WEST END (0171-439 4805) it's A Wonderful Life 2.40pm, 5.30pm,

**ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET** (0171-

703 4968) The Borrowers Fri/Sat/Mon 1pm, 4.50pm; Sun/Tue-Thu 4.50pm Seerge Of The Jongle Fri/Sat/Mon 1.30pm, 3.45pm; Sun/Tue-Thu 3.45pm Spiceworld — The Movie 2.45pm. 6.40pm, 8.50pm Starship Troopers Frl/Sat/Mon 1.45pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm; Sun/Tue-Thu 2.40pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm Tomorrow Never Cles 5.45pm, 8.25pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0171-437 1234) The Full Monty 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm, 11.15pm (Fri-Sat) Seven Years in Tibet 12noon, 3pm, 6.15pm, 9.20pm, 12.10am (Fri-Sat) Spiceworld - The Movie 11.30am, 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm, 11.30pm (Fri-Sat)

**GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043)** The Wings Of The Dove 2,30pm, 4,40pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 11.15pm (Fri-Sat)

Women Sal/Sun 6pm Close-Up 3pm (Sal/Sun), 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Fellini's Casanova Sal/Sun 8.30pm Fellini: A Diractor's Notebook Thu 6.30pm, 8.30pm + Short I Vitelioni Mon-Wed 6.30pm La

Wonderful Life 3om, 6,30om, 9om NOTTING HILL COHONET (0171-727 5705) Tomorrow Never Dies 3pm, 6pm,

OGEON CAMDEN TOWN (0181-315
4255) Face/Off Fri-Sat 11.40pm George
Of The Jungle 11.40am, 1.40pm, 3.50pm
Home Alone 3 11.45am, 2pm, 4.10pm
It's A Wonderful Life 12.35pm, 6.05pm,
9.05pm Jingle Alf The Way Sat 10am LA.
Contidential 8.40pm Nitratic On 34th
Street (1994 Version) Sat 9.45am Tim
Borton's The Nightmare Before Christmas Sat 9.40am Drew Might Stand Borton's The Nightmare Before Carist-mas Sat 9.40am Dne Night Stand 6.15pm, 11.40pm (Fri-Sat) Spiceworld— The Movie 1.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm, 11.45pm (Fri-Sat) Starship Troopers 12.25pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm, 12midnight (Fri-Sat) Tomorrow Never Dies 3.40pm, 6.35pm, 8.15pm, 12.11pm (Fri-Sat)

DOEON HAYMARKET (0181-315 4212) Regeneration 2pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm **DDEON KENSINGTON (0181-315 4214)** 

Alien: Resurrection 8.45pm, 12.20am (Fd-Sat) The Berrewers 12.25pm; 2.45pm Cop Land 7.20pm George Of The Jungle 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm Hercules 12.10pm Home Alone 8 12 10pm - Home Alone 8 12 10 10 1, 230 pm, 4.55 pm I Know What You Did Last Summer 2.25 pm, 4.45 pm, 7.05 pm, 12.25 am (Fri-Sat) L.A. Confi-dential 9.25 pm 8 piceworld - The Movie 5 pm, 7.20 pm, 9.40 pm, 12 midnight (Fri-Sat) Starship Troopers 12.35 pm, 3.30 pm, 6.25 pm, 9.20 pm, 12.15 am (Fri-Sat) To-prostress Moves. merrow Never Oies 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm, 12.20am (Fri-Sat)

LEICESTER SOUARE 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm,

er Dies 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm. 8.30pm, 11.10pm (Sat)

DDEON WEST END (0181-315 4221) Starship Treopers 12.15pm, 1.45pm, 3.05pm, 4.55pm, 6pm, 7.45pm, 8.50pm, 10.45pm (Sat), 11.45pm (Sat)

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0845-600 0505) PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0845-600 0505) Across The See Of Time – A New York Adventure (3D) Fri, Sun, Mon, Wed, 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm, 10.30pm, also Sat, Tue, Thu 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm Beavers Fri 11.30am, 7.30pm, 9.30pm seavers Pri 11.30am, Sat 10.30am, 4.30pm, also Sun 1.30pm, 5.30pm, Mon 11.30am, Tue, Tha 2.30pm, Wed 3.30pm Blue Planet Fri 3.30pm, 9.30pm, Sat 12.30pm, 6.30pm, Mon 11.30pm; also 5un 9.30pm, Mon 5.30pm, Tue 4.30pm, 8.30pm, Wed 11.30am, 9.30pm, Thu 4.30pm, 10.30pm Grand Canyon - The Hidden Secrets Fri 5.30pm, Sat 8.30pm; also Sun 11.30am, 3.30pm, Mon, Wed 1.30pm, 7.30pm, Tue 12.30pm, Thu 10.30am, 8.30pm Thrill Ride - The Science Of Fun Fri 1.30pm, 7.30pm, 11.30pm Sat 2.30pm, 10.30pm; Sun 7.30pm, Men 3.30pm, 9.30pm, Tue 10.30am, 6.30pm, 10.30pm, Wed 5.30pm, Thu 12.30pm, 8.30pm

PHOENIX CINEMA (D181-444 6788) The Tango Lesson Fri/Sat/Mon-Thu 2.10pm (not Sat/Tue), 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm (not Fri, 5at/Mon); Sun 6.40pm Annie Hall Sat 2pm Keep The Aspids-tra Flying Tue 2.15pm Me Vie En Rose Sun 2.30pm + City Of Lost Children 4.15cm The Mennet Christmes Cam Sat 4.15pm The Muppel Christmas Carol Sat

PLAZA (0171-437 1234) The Berrowers, Cep Land, I Know What You Did Last Summer, One Night Stand Phone for times RENOER (0171-837 8402) Kitchen (Wo



High-octane melodrama: Rock Hudson and Dorothy Majone in Douglas Sirk's re-released 'Written on the Wind'

**ODEON MARBLE ARCH (0181-315 4216)** The Borrowers 11.50am, 1.55pm Cop Land to Wed 6.15pm, 8.50pm, 11.45pm (Fri-Sat): Thu 9,50pm George Of The Jungle 11.35am, 1.50pm, 4pm Home Alone 3 11.35am, 1.55pm, 4.15pm, 8.30pm LA. Confidential 8.50pm Spiceworld - The Movie 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm, 11.15pm (Fri-Sat) Starship Troopers 12.05pm, 3.05pm, 6pm, 9pm, 11.55pm (Fri-Sat) Tomorrow Never Dies 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.05pm, 9.05pm, 11.50pm (Fri-Sat)

ODEON MEZZANINE (D181-315 4215) Allen: Resurrection 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Bean 2.35pm, 4.35pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm Pace/Off 2.15pm (not Sat/Sun), 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Full Menty 12.50pm, 2.55pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm Hercules Sat/Sun 1.15pm, 3.15pm The Tange Lesson 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (0181-315 4220) The Berrawars Fri, Sun-Thu 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm; Sat Land Fri, Sun-Thu 8.45pm, Sat 9.45pm George Of The Jungle Fri, Sun-Thu 12.50pm, 3.10pm, 5.40pm, Sat 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm Home Alone 3 Fri, Sun-Thu 14.65pm Home Alone 3 Fri, Sun-+ Short I Vitelioni Mon-Wed 6.30pm La Strada Mon-Wed 8.30pm Betala Strada Fri, Sun-Thu 8.45pm Sat 10pm La Confidential Fri, Sun-Thu 8.10pm, Sat 9.40pm Spiceworld — The Morie 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm, 11pm (Sat) Starstip Troopers 12.05pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm, 11.05pm (Sat) Tomorrow Nev-

Ai Chufang) 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Tango Lesson 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

RID CINEMA (0171-254 6677) The Wings DI The Gave 3.45pm (not Sat/Sun/Tue), 6.15pm, 8.45pm L'Appartement (The Apartment) Sun 3.45pm The Borrowers Sat 2pm, 4.15pm; Tue 4.15pm Boy Meets Girl (Carax Version) 5un 1.45pm + L'Appartement Quadrophenia Sat 11.15pm + Wittmail And | The Secret Gerden Sat 11am RITZY CENEMA (0171-737 2121) The Bor-

RITZY CBIEMA (0171-737 2121) The Borrowers Sat/Sun 11.30am (Sat), 1.30pm, 4.30pm (Sat) Carrington Sun 4.10pm George Of The Jungle Sat/Sun 1.10pm Home Alone 3 11.45am (Sat), 2pm (Sat/Sun), 4.15pm Kitchen (Wo Ai Chutang) 4.10pm (Fri. Sat) The Muppet Christmas Carrol Sat 10.30am The Pagemaster Sat 10.30am Regeneration 1.25pm (not Sat/Sun), 4pm (not Sat/Sun), 6.35pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm (Fri. Sat) Starship Troopers 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.45pm (Fri. Sat) Tomorrow Never Dies 11.45pm (Fri, Sat) Tomorrow Never Dies 1.20pm (not Sat/Sun), 3.55pm (not Sat/Sun), 6.30pm, 9.05pm, 11.35pm (Fri, Sat) Ulysses' Gaze Fri-5at/Mon-Thu ipm Wilde Sun 2.05pm The Wings Of The Dove 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm, 11.30pm (Fri, Sat)

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-486 0036) The Borrowers 3.05pm Starship Troopers 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Wings Of The Dove 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm,

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) The Wings Of The Dave 3.40pm. 6.40pm, 8.55pm

SCREEN ON THE MILL (0171-435 3386) The Wings Of The Dove 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 8.45pm, 8.55pm, 11.15pm (Sat)

UCI WHITELEYS (0171-792 3332) Alien: Resurrection Phone for details The Berrowers 10.20am (Fri-Sun), 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.35pm Cop Land Phone for detals The Full Monty Phone for detals George Of The Jungle Phone for detals Hercules Fri-Sun 10.15am Home Alone 3 11.15am (Art-Sull 10.15ah hunte Audre 3 11.15am (Art-Sull), 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm I Know What You Oid Last Surr-mer 7.30pm, 8.50pm L.A. Confidential Phone for details One Night Stand Phone for details Spiceworld — The Movie tor details Spiceworld - The More 12.20pm, 2.35pm, 4.45pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm Starship Treopers Fri-Sun 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm, 8.15pm; Mon-Thu 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm, 9.15pm Tomorrow Never Dies 12.40pm, 3.25pm, 8.10pm, 8.55pm

VIREIN CHELSEA (0181-970 6010) The Full Monty 2pm (not fri-Sun), 4.40pm (not fri-Sun), 7pm, 9.10pm George Of The Jungle fri-Sun 1.40pm Home Alone 3 fri-Sun 1.20pm, 3.40pm Spiceworld – The Movie 12.30pm (Fri-Sun), 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 7.10pm, 9.20pm Starship Troopers 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 8pm Tomorrow Never Dies 1.30pm (not Fri-Sun), 4.10pm,

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0181-970 6011) The Barrowers Fri-Sun 12noon, 2,10pm. 4.20pm I Know Wital You Did Last Summei 1.50pm (not Fri-Sun), 4.10pm (not Fri-Sun), 8.40pm, 9.15pm M's A Won-Hi-Sunj, 8.40pm, 9.15pm fr's A Worderful Life 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.45pm LA. Confidential 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.15pm Spiceworld — The Movie 11.30em (Hri-5un), 1.40pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Remortow Never Diss 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm The Wings Of The Dove 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 3.40pm, 3.40pm,

VIRGIN HAMMERSMITH (0181-970 6026) The Borrowers 12.10pm (Fn-5un), 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm Heme Stary, 2-10pm, 3,15pm I Know What You Did Last Summer 6.50pm Spiceworld — The Movie 12noon (Fri-Sun), 2,20pm, 4,40pm, 7,10pm, 9,30pm Starship Troop-ers 1pm, 3,30pm, 6,10pm, 9pm, 11,45pm (Sat) Tomorrow Never Dies

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0181-970 6016) The Full Monty 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm L.A. Confidential 2pm, 5pm, 8pm The Wings Of The Dove 1.10pm, 3.40pm,

VIRGIN TROCADERO (0181-970 6015) Alien: Resurrection 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm (Fri-Sat) The 8er-0.30pm; 9.17.130pm; 11.40pm; 4.20pm; 6.45pm Cop Land 9.10pm; 11.40pm (Fri-Sat) Face/Off 8.50pm; 11.45pm (Fri-Sat) George Of The Jungle 12.10pm; 2.20pm; 4.30pm; 6.40pm Home Alone 3 12.15pm; .30pm, 4.45pm I Knew What You Did Last Summer 12 noon, 2, 15pm, 4, 30pm, 6,50pm, 9,20pm, 12 midnight (Fri-Sat) One Night Stand 7pm, 9,20pm, 11,50pm (Fri-Sat) Spiceworld — The Movie 12 noon, 11,50pm, 12,50pm, 1pm, 2.20pm, 3.20pm, 4.40pm, 5.50pm, 7pm, 8,10pm, 9.20pm, 11.40pm (Fri-Sat)

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4347) The Borrowers 12.20pm, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm Contact 6.15pm Cop Land 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm, 12.15am (Fri-5un) Reorge Of The Jumgle 1pm, 3.10pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm G.I. Jane Fri-Sun 11.50pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm I Know What You Did Last Suramer 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 5.720pm (not 12.30cm. 2.40cm. 5cm. 7.20cm (rk Wed), 9.30pm, 12.10am (Fri-Sun) L.A. Confidential 12ncon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, 12midnight (Fri-Sun) A Life Less Drdimary 9.05pm, 11.40pm (Fri-Sun) My Best Friend's Wedding 9.20pm One Night Stand 1.50pm, 4.10pm (Fri-Sun), 6.30pm (not Men), 8.50pm, 11.30pm (Fri-Sun) Prince Vallent 12.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm Scream Sat/Sun late 11.40pm The Wings Of The Dove 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm, 11.15pm (Sat/Sun)



The Bugs are agreeably nasty, swarming over the horizon like a platoon of Swiss army knives

# Space cadets vs battling Bugs

giggled my way through Starship Troopers, and er the end I still wasn't sure exactly what I had been laughing at. It's a broad spoof of war propaganda - en exercise in gung-ho-ho.

It would be incorrect to say that the film works on many different levels, since it rarely works at all, though you might say that it is open to a baffling number of different interpretations. It appears both to celebrate and satirise the blond-haired, hlue-cycd space cadets who are dispatched from their futuristic fascist homeland to hattle the Bugs. giant killer arachnids hent on

universal domination. The director, Paul Verhoeven, devotes much of the film to these cadets and their boring, competitive. Beverly Hills 90210 lives, ticking off a checklist of the components of teenage soap opera: the love triangles, the parental conflict, even the hland colours and prosaic camerawork. You don't care when most of the charecters get sliced to rihhons in the second half, and Verhoeven doesn't want you to - it's just a big, perverse joke. You go with it or you don't. And even if you do, it can still leave you feeling lousy, like the worst sitcoms or fast food.

FILM ROUND-UP BY RYAN GILBEY

There are no punchlines, though the violence has a brutal comic kick, and there is some self-consciously awful dialogue that recalls the film's influences - Them and The Blob, and the recent Tremors. The funniest sections are the television broadcasts advising citizens on how they can do their bit for the war effort, though these are basically the same routines that spiced up Verhoeven's earlier film Robocop. Starship Troopers can be very unsparing in its satire, but what it lacks is any purpose; it gels so that all you're laughing at is the film's

behind its meen-spirited pose. Here and there, you can detect Verhoeven's subversive tendencies jostling for space. His wittiest film, The Fourth Man. is echoed when the handsome. shirtless young hero gets a public lashing and Verhoeven wrings out every last sweaty drop of homo-croticism from the scenc. And the Bugs themselves are egreeably nasty, lungeing and jahhing with their seissor-blade limbs, swarming over the horizon like a platoon

knowingness - there's nothing

that they don't make 'em like this any more - if they did, we would all be on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Robert Stack plays the reckless, impotent son of an od tycoon, with Lauren Bacall as of Swiss army knives. The battle his long-suffering wife. Dorothy

and Rock Hudson as Stack's even a cartoon gulping noise on the soundtrack before the creabest pal, all of them caught up in a violent emotional tornado. ture erupts, covering innocent It's a film to convince you of two bystanders in a snot-and-bologthings: Douglas Sirk was a nese chowder. It's like hard-core pornography for Rentokil men. genius; and there's always If you're looking for something soothing efter Starship Troopers, don't turn for comfort to the re-release of Douglas Sirk's intoxicating 1956 melodrama Written on the Wind. Although the film is a lush,

over-ripe little masterpiece, it

scenes provide flashes of pure.

vicious slapstick - when a Bug

swallows a grenade, there's

somebody worse off than you. 'Starship Troopers' (cert 15) is on general release from today. Written on the Wind' (PG) is at the Everyman, Hampstead, and Curzon Phoenix from today.

Malone as the kid sister who

seeks solace in any old arms,

Looking at t see what lies

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One the things that

meet's period alien

that these people were

Come was the Sentism

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remains something of a relief and at the NFT from 9 January.

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MARK KERMODE RADIO I

"THE OSCAR RACE HAS KICKED OFF WITH HELENA BONHAM CARTER THE FRONT RUNNER AS BEST ACTRESS." Evening Standard

HELENA BONHAM CARTER

nominated - Best actress award winner - Best actress award 1997 winner - Best actress award 1997 winner - Best actress award 1997 LA FILM CRÍTICS CÍRCLE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW BOSTON FILM CRITICS CIRCLE

" lain Softley's direction is FLAWLESS, THE PHOTOGRAPHY AND COSTUMES RAVISH THE EYE."



"Not only gorgeous to look at, BUT ALSO SEXY, INTELLIGENT AND UTTERLY ASSORBING."

HELENA BONHAM CARTER LINUS ROACHE ALISON ELLIOTT

THE WINGS OF THE DOVE

MIRAMAX FILMS PRESENTS A RENAISSANCE FILMS PRODUCTION. AN IAIN SOFTLEY FILM 'THE WINGS OF THE DOVE' MELENA BONHAM CARTER, LINUS ROACHE ALISON ELIOTT ELIZABETH MCGOVERT MICHAEL GAMBON ALEX JENNINGS AND CHARLOTTE RAMPLING. CASTING MICHAEL GUISH. COSTUME DESICHER SANOY POWELL MUSIC BY EDWARD SHEARMUR EOITOR, TARIQ ANWAR. PRODUCTION DESICHER JOHN BEARD. DIRECTOR OF PHOTOCRAPHY EDUARDO SERRE A.F.C. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BOB WEINSTEIN HARVEY WEINSTEIN PAUL FELOSHER, BASEO ON THE NOVEL BY HENRY JAMES SCREENPLAY MOSSEIN AMINI, PRODUCED BY STEPHEN EVANS AND OAVIO PAREITT. DIRECTEO BY JAIN SOFTLEY.

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# 15/FILMS

# Looking at the horizon to see what lies beyond



Don't look now: Softley in Venice, ideal for passionate trysts

The director of 'The Wings of the Dove' artfully strips this period film - and its inhabitants - of convention. Nick Hasted meets lain Softley, the man who likes to work on the edge.

Bugs

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reakdown.

When Iam Softley travels through time, he doesn't want you to notice. In his first film Backbeat (1994), he stripped back three decades of Beatles mythology to show their early years as a Hamburg puh band, pulled you in to their primal energy. In his second, Hackers (1995), he tried to predict the future, the music and manners of the digital underground 18 months ahead, when the film he was making would open. Soundtracked by the likes of The Prodigy and Leftfield, swimming in Internet images, it was too prescient, and crashed. Now he's in 1910, with The Wings of the Dove, and Helena Bonham Carter. Most directors would be crushed by period trappings. Softley has ripped through them. In its story about a doomed love triangle, of a helpless passion between young people abroad, he saw a story he wanted to tell young people to-

These films usually have a rather fetishistis, collector's view of the past," Softley observes, doubtless with Merchant-Ivory in mind. "They're usually limited to an older, more genteel audience. Wines of the Dove was written by Henry James, a classical author. But the story itself is about young people, it's about people who have sexual desires, frustrations, end are hungry for each other, are hungry for opportunity and life. There's something very

One of the things that made this period alien to me was the sense that these people were caged in formality'

vibrant about the story. And so the fact that it could be executed in a way that turns off people the same age as the people in it seems

The casting of Bonham Carter is almost a metaphor for Softley's intentions, her corseted image unbuttoned, literally, in her first nude scene, and in a performance of confused, aggressive desire that already has her tipped for an Oscar. "One of the things that made this period alien to me was the sense that these people were caged, in corsets or etiquette, hats or formal greetings," Softley admits. "But you can sense in the novel that, underneath the veneer of the manners of the age, the same pulses were beating. We've chosen moments which are similar to our time - a girl coming to her boyfriend's apartment unchaperoned, and lying on the bed, or hidden in a lift in the Underground, where characters can grab each other physically."

Softley, a 39-year-old who looks younger, and whose pre-Backbeat background was in pop videos, is no Merchant-Ivory manqué. The thing that links his films isn't the fact of their travels through time, but the points at which they alight. In Backbeat, it was Astrid Kirchherr, the free-thinking female photographer loved by "Fifth Beatle" Stuart Sutcliffe, who engaged him. In The Wings of the Dove, too, Bonham Carter's sexuality is at the cusp of what's possible, just ahead of society. In Hackers, most daringly, Softley tried to document times just before they happened. In each film he's been drawn to places on the edge. Hamburg or Venice or cyberspace, places of possibility. It's a tendency he's aware of, a clue to who he is.

"I think people are more alive and interesting if they are at the vanguard of their time, and fight against conventions," he says. There are moments when there is a sense of things being possible. These ebb and flow, but it's the point when they come to a head that I always want to show. There are always people who are suppressing desire and aspiration. There are always pressures for people to act in a particular way. I'm most interested in characters who question and discover the world for themselves. I think it's an admirable, invigorating human quality."

In Hackers, Softley absorbed himself in characters with a sort of second sight, teenagers who could see under the skin of 1990s New York, to the playground of its phone wires. In Backbeat and The Wings of the Dove, it's the sensual place behind the public veneer that obsesses him. Does he think the official view of culture in any period is necessarily dull, a sort of shell - that there's always an exciting essence underneath? "I think there is in people's heads," he says.

"There are times in everybody's life when they've been to a party or a club or a gig. and it's just been magic, for a moment, and that's the reason why people listen to music, why it's so pervasive." Is that moment in his films? "I hope so. Because, when it hits me, there's noth-

The sense of swimming against the tide in Softley's characters is close to his heart. When he first tried to break into the film world in the 1980s, his face didn't fit. A product of the West London suburbs, his politely-spoken, middle-class persona wasn't made for times when film-makers were obliged to be, he remembers, "socially or regionally extreme". Wanting to be a film-maker at all was a blow against his background. He remembers a childhood when the excitement of Beatles records and the romance of hitch-hiking to festivals, and of London itself, took hold. But he still felt trapped on a path that would take him straight from school to Cambridge. So he hroke away, for a year, and went to France. He didn't phone his parents once. He saw it as an experiment, an attempt to survive on his wits. He picked grapes, taught, painted, lived in the Midi, then Paris. "It was interesting to be somewhere where I didn't have any relationship to anybody," he remembers, "and where I didn't know what was going to happen next. It was an attempt to break free. It was an adventure."

The characters in all his films go to places where they're on their own, where they can define themselves. Does he think the step he took by going to France still fuels his work? "I know it does. When I wrote Backbeat, I was interested in the sense of arriving in Hamburg, and how no assumptions are made about you, there's no history. I actually went back to Paris to write it. There is something about those journeys, when you have to break out. Something happened to John Lennon and Stuart Sutcliffe when they left the back streets of Liverpool. They wouldn't have become The Beatles if they d stayed. You define who you are more clearly by going away.

"I remember when I was a child, when I saw the view from the top of a hill, there was always something that fascinated me about it. I always wanted to go to what was over the horizon. It's almost nomadic, that search for something, until you realise that perhaps it's never there. I think that time in your life, when you're travelling and working out what you're going to do with yourself, is a time of great pain, but a time that you look back on as golden as well. There's something tragic about the way we change. The person I was 10 years ago is no longer there. That's in all the stories I'm telling, too."

# THE BIG **PICTURE**



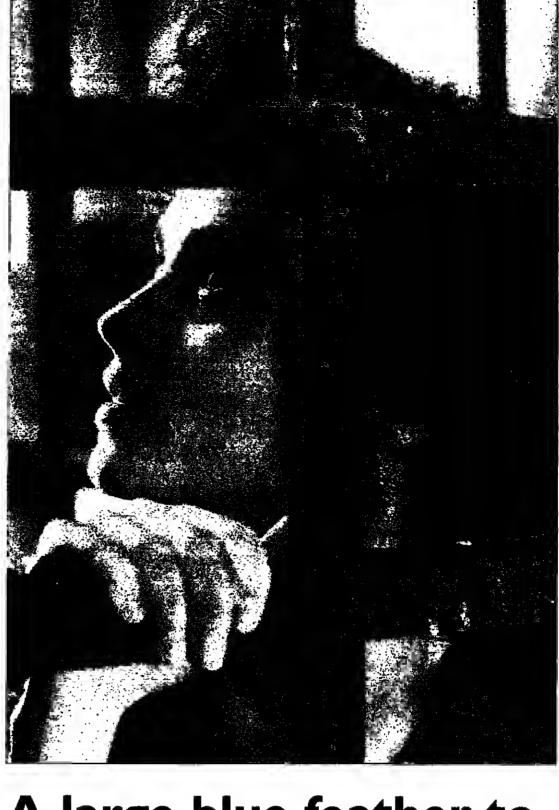
RYAN GILBEY

There should be another term by which we might describe film adaptations of novels that drastically reinterpret the source text. With a picture like The Wings of the Dove, the credit "based on the novel by Henry James" just isn't appropriate - it suggests an almost logical progression, as though the ideas and themes contained within the novel were being taken up by the screenwriter in a kind of literary relay race, which patently isn't the case. "Inhabited by the novel by Henry James" would be nearer the mark. You couldn't argue that The Wings of the Dove was faithful to its source in any conventional sense, though it displays another sort of loyalty - it feels like a dream about James's novel, rather than an adaptation of it, which is perhaps the only sensible way for a filmmaker to approach this most famously interior of writers.

The director Iain Softley (see interview, left) specialises in films about little surrogate families - he made Backbeat, which depicted the early days of the Beatles, and Hackers, a light comedy about a renegade hand of computer nerds. It should be a credit to those earlier pictures, rather than a slur on The Wings of the Dove, to say that Softley treats James's trio of tortured souls with the same breezy generosity that he dished out to Lennon and Co, or the cyber-boffins. He has a loose, discreetly daring style that won't upset those viewers who have come to marvel at the posh frocks, but which contravenes the polite objectivity of the traditional costume drama all the same.

Sometimes he can joh you out of your seat with a single well-timed effect - a soccer ball falls toward the camera. which then switches position to watch it complete its journey to earth; in another scene, two women leaf through pornographic books, and as Softley zooms in on the crude illustrations, their tly unnerving during a Venetian carnival scene, where the camera prowls across the water, surveying a traffic jam of gondolas in which figures in death masks huddle in the darkness, while the soundtrack comes alive with an urgent percussive rhythm that sounds like a bag of bones being rantled. You can feel Softley's delight in unnerving his audience. though he doesn't always try for a sinister effect - early on, there's a lovely comic edit which is very nearly a Godardian jump-cut, where Kate Croy (Hclena Bonham Carter I is standing in her lover's doorway one moment, and is sprawled across his hed the next. "Gagging for it" might not be a phrase that cropped up in James's novel, but it's practically flashing in neon above every

character in the film. The picture shifts the action of the novel forward by eight years to 1910. which gives Softley the chance to pull off two key scenes whose visual potency rests on locations and props specif-



# A large blue feather to tickle our sensibilities

checky snickers grow obscenely ram- ic to the era. The film opens in a seedy in her chamber - at the beginning of the ly reveals her plan to unite Merton and this bold effect is only a whisker away from having Kate trot in wearing a platinum wie and a badge proclaiming "Femmes fatales do it in stilettos", but the brashness feels thrillingly rude and

If Kate's entrance doubles as a statement of intent from Softley, then what follows feels as if he and his screenwriter, Hossein Amini, were scribbling graffiif in the margins of the novel. Kate tempts her lover, the journalist Merton Densher (Linus Roache), into an elevator, where their clinch immediately punctures that taut sexual tension that is characteristic of James. As you watch Kate and Merion writhing behind the lift's iron shutters, it becomes clear that Sofiley and Amini are not prepared to he coy about the extent to which these characters are trapped by passion. The film is full of images of imprisonment. self-imposed or otherwise. There are repeated shots of Merton being denied access to a woman who remains ensconced

later, he receives the same treatment when he arrives to visit Milly (Alison Elliott), the dying American heiress with whom he has travelled to Venice as an unwitting pawn in Kate's get-rich-quick scheme. One of the final shots is of Kate curled naked on Merton's bed, an image which might suggest rehirth if it weren'l filmed through the bars of the hedstead, transforming Kate's sanctu-

There has been a considerable attempt made to hlunt the abrasive edges of Kate's personality, though it is to the credit of Helena Bonham Carter that this is not entirely convincing. The screenplay often seems to be preoccupied with fulfilling PR duties on Kate's behalf, but Bonham Carter secures your attention, and even affection, without necessarily being likeable.

ary into her prison.

She is lit like a skeleton, the severe angles of her cheekbones carving on her face. Even before Kate explicit- general release from today.

Cutting on 0171 293 2330 or James Knott on 0171 293 2028.

hunctions until you realise that it's ac- London Underground carriage, where picture, he is turned away from Kate's Milly, so that she and Merton may bentually the premature laughter of the a cluster of murky brown suits and door on the orders of her aunt, who wish-efit from Milly's will, her most apparparty guests in the next scene that you bowlers is interrupted by the blue es her to wed a more respectable suit- ently charitable act has an unsavoury can hear. The use of sound is also sub- plumage on Kate's hat. It may be that or, as Kate watches from her window; lewdness about it. Having learnt the art of matchmaking from observing the military manoeuvres of her aunt, Kate deposits Merton and Milly in front of Gustav Klimt's Danae, as though the painting itself might act as an aesthetic aphrodisiac. The scene has only been made possible by the screenplay's shift in time - Klimt did not complete the painting until 1908 - hut it works against the film's idea of Kate as essentially sympathetic, and actually brings the character closer in line with James's conception of her. The choice of this painting is significant on an immediate level because of the striking resemblance that the flame-haired actress Alison Elliott bears to Danaë - it is as though Kate were inviting Merton to imagine Milly stripped and lost in desire like Danaë, even as the timid Milly herself looks on oblivious, a pathetic gooseberry in her own seduction.

through the stark white light that falls "The Wings of the Dove' (cert 15) is on





# The killers we indulge, and those we don't



EDITOR: ANDREW MARK DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES. ADDRESS: L'CANADA SQUARE. CANARY WHARE. LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 017t 345 2000 FAX: 017t 293 2435 OR 0171-345 2435

It's the time of year when the haggage of memory gets ransacked. A lot must be left behind, and so, for the sake of health, it should be. Recollection of yesterday's quarrels fade. New paradigms establish themselves. Labour becomes, in Harold Wilson's phrase, the natural party of government by dint of being there and looking comfortable with it (though the latest cahinet papers remind us yet again how unnatural the exercise of power remained for Wilson himself). Yesterday's political villains start to look benign. The lean and hungry Portillos put on weight, metaphorically speaking. One day, even, people will play hack their tape of him on election

night and sympathise rather than cheer. Selective amnesia is good mental hygiene, but how to decide what to junk? At what point do we not only forget, but in forgetting start to forgive? The latter half of the 20th century has seen many examples of a curious transformation. Yesterday's freedom fighter, 10day's statesman.

This process already applies to Northern Ireland. Just before Christmas one of the men convicted for planting the Brighton bomh - which, let's not forget. nearly murdered most of the Cabinet (and crippled Lord Tebbit's wife | - was allowed out of prison on leave. Yet the tahloids' attempt to whip up a storm came to nothing. Most people evidently feel the passage of time has washed away the horror of it. The public's amnesia is, however, highly selective. If some extra-historical "objective" scale of personal culpability could be constructed, Myra Hindley might look no more guilty than other murderers subsequently released well before their dotage. But her crime elicited a special response; it was classified as cvil, IRA homhers who conspired to kill and succeeded in killing many more than Hindley go free: to kill for a cause, however questionable, appears to stimulate forgiveness, or at the very least, acceptance.

In Italy, we report today, moves are

afoot to grant indulgence to many of those jailed as a result of the wave of terrorism during the 1970s and early 1980s. Then. in pursuit of the destabilisation of Christian Democrat hegemony, Italian politicians were assassinated (the discovery of Aldo Moro's body in a car boot is still a sharp visual image); public order was assaulted, most memorahly by the bomb at Bologna railway station. These crimes - carried out by the extreme right as well as the left - were political. At the time and since, many Italians have believed the state was complicit, that secret service units collaborated in terror. That seems to have generated a public wish for reconciliation. Romano Prodi's centre-left coalition government, the first Italian government in which the participation of Communists has been allowed, even if they now call themselves the Democratic Party of the Left. desperately wants to move away from the robber state which the Christian Democrats and the Socialists presided over.

Amnesty in Italy thus becomes a way of affirming modernisation. But how just does that grand sentiment appear to a relative of one of the Bologna victims? Would an Italian government ever think forgivingly of the mafiosi that the Italian courts have managed to convict, when their colleagues continue to subvert law and good order across wide swaths of Sicily and Calahria and, still, taint the state itself?

A parallel process has been under way in Germany. There the courts, press and opinion have grappled confusedly with reconciliation in the aftermath of reunification. At the same time a programme of rehabilitation for the political terrorists of the late 1960s and 1970s of the Red Army Fraction and the Baader-Meinhof stamp is under way. Ulrike Meinhof may be dead, but her sisterly conspirators emerge from jail, never quite managing to meet the eyes of the relatives of the guards, husiness people and others they killed. Germany is willing to forget this part of the past, even

though Wolfgang Schäuble, the Christian Democrats' heir apparent, is confined to a wheelchair as a result of terrorist assault.

Two wedding back in fa

But how offensive would it be if Germans sought also to forget another part of their past, the one that ended in 1945? Public opinion in Britain, and in the United States, vehemently answers that they must never forget the Holocaust. The trial of Maurice Papon in Bordeaux showed last year that for many in France there is a class of historical crimes for which no statute of limitations can exist, which can never be washed white in the milk of amnesia. But then there are genocides and genocides. Those responsible for mass murder among the trees of equatorial Africa are not disbarred from appearing as national leaders invited to shake the hands of IMF officials and British amhassadors.

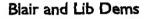
Not only do the waters of Lethe run deep, they run also in strange and various

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number. Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Leners may be edited for length and clarity.

# **LETTERS**

JEVVA FEEL LAKE YOU'RE IN A KAYNDOVA

RUT?



Sir: "What reasons," asks Donald MacIntyre. "would now justify the [Liberal Democrats'] stubborn refusal of [cah-inet] office?" ("Why Blair will soon invite Ashdown into the Cabinet", 30 December). Let

me give two. First, the history of coalition governments under a first-pastthe-post (FPTP) electoral system shows that, at the subsequent election, the perceived electoral choice is for the government (vote for the larger party) or against it (vote for the opposition). The smaller coalition partner suffers heavily from a loss of its distinct identity. So a coalition could only be based, so far as the Liberal Democrats are concerned. on a cast-iron commitment to a reformed electoral system being in place before the next general election.

Second, Mr MacIntyre answers his own question with his next words: "Blair is now impatient to gather together the collective anti-Tory forces while he is ahead". The worst way forward for British politics would he the combination of a single party ple" on the one hand and the continuation of a FPTP electoral system on the other as, by definition, sooner or later some non-sensible party would win.

The better way is to embrace the pluralism inherent in a reformed electoral system, and recognise that there is at present, within British politics, a spectrum of five parties (six in Scotland and Wales), with the Conservatives fundamentally split between the English Nationalists on the one hand and a Christian Democrat-type strand on the other, and the Labour Party divided hetween "New Labour" and the "Tyrannosaurus Tendency". "Gathering together the anti-Tory forces" under a FPTP electoral system is precisely the opposite of that pluralism. PHILIP GOLDENBERG

Woking Surrey

Sir: Derek Cole's claim (letter, 31 December) that Keynes and Beveridge would have opposed the Government's welfare reforms is longer on speculation

Keynes's central insight was that economies were cyclically unstable. He believed the state should try to stahilise econom-

PRIESTLEY policy - with the implication that public revenues and expenditure should balance over the course

of the business cycle. In the sixth year of recovery, the Government is, if anything, not being tough enough on public spending to meet the criteria of Keynesian stabilisation policy. The axiom of the Beveridge Report was that of social insurance, not redistribution: benefits would be funded hy

contributions and supplemented hy a welfare "safety net" for those whose incomes fell below a certain level. There was no plan to establish a structural budget deficit generated by expenditure on an expanding system of welfare entitlements.

The principle of welfare reform is wholly in line with liberal thinking, and is supported by independent-minded figures of both main parties, such as Frank Field and Chris Patten, and of none, such as George Walden and Martin Bell. It is the ic activity by means of fiscal curious and essentially

reactionary alliance of the Liberal Democrats and the Labour rehels that has ahandoned Keynes and Beveridge. OLIVER KAMM

Sir: Donald MacIntyre remarks that, like Tony Blair, Lloyd George was "fundamentally unsympathetic to the wastefulness of two parties competing for the same territory in the centre and centre left".

From the Liberal point of view - and over the entire 20th century, Labour's too - it was Lloyd George's arrogance that led to a century of Conservative Party domination. When the trade unionists approached Lloyd George to ask him to prosecute their case in Parliament, he sent them off with no firm commitment. They promptly decided to hack Labour. Within a matter of years the Liberal Party was virtually extinguished. LESLEY ABDELA

# IMF and debt policy

Sir: In her determination to castigate the rich countries for their "immoral" debt policies (Comment, 31 December I. Diane Coyle seems to have forgotten that, during the 1980s. more than a half of the Third World's debts owed to the commercial hanks were written off as losses.

Because of concerns that this process could in turn undermine the international financial system. much of the energy of the IMF at that time was devoted to arranging rescue packages for the most heavily indebted de-

veloping countries. Since South Korea currently appears to be experiencing a liquidity problem rather than a fundamental imhalance in its external accounts, the IMF is correct in seeking to prevent a financial collapse that could have a domino effect on other Asian countries. NIGEL WILKINS

#### Sir: What confronts us in South Korea could be seen as two failed imports from the West. namely Communism and capitalism. The first is almost his-

tory and there's a lot to be said for dismantling the second. The capitalist system has trapped us all in a vicious circle in which insatiability of demand has become an economic imperative, the alternative being collapse of production and

loss of jobs. Hence the rumour is that the Koreans may flood the world with cheap exports to deal with their "over-capacity". Post-Kyoto, perhaps they can make a virtue out of necessity by offering us a glut of cut-price. low-energy light hulbs. D W EVANS

Equal opportunities

Sir. I write to clarify the Equal Opportunities Commission's position on possible priority for women in the selection of prospective parliamentary can-

didates ("Equality law could hring more female MPs", 29 Dccemher). The EOC has no proposals for the current legislation to be changed to per-

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

mut this. The EOC will not be advising the Government next month that the Sex Discrimination Act could be amended to allow parties to give priority to women. Our view is that the law is unclear and, even if the SDA is amended, it will not remove the possibility of a chal-

lenge under European Law. The EOC has developed proposals for amendments to the sex equality laws which have been in place for 22 years. In the course of our consultation we will also be seeking views on the use of positive discrimination in employment and in the selection of prospective parliamentary candidates. KAMLESH BAHL

Chairwoman Equal Opportunities Commission

#### Cannabis arrests

Sir: The arrests of a Cabinet Minister's son, a journalist from the The Mirror and another man, for small cannahis offences illustrate the ineffectiveness and the injustice of the law that bans the plant.

The lad did what many other UK people do each day - pass a small amount of cannahis to someone who wants it. The annoving thing is that the cost, both economic and to police time, will all come out of the public pocket. To what end? Punishing someone for a crime without a victim. A fine example of British justice. TINA SMITH Norwich, Norfolk

Sir. While it is hardly uncommon for political pressure to be applied to the police and the Crown Prosecution Service, it is increasingly uncommon for police to respond to possession of a small amount of cannahis (on a first offence) with any more than a caution. For Dawn Alford to be arrested and bailed until February while the CPS come to a decision on the case (report. 30 December) illustrates the extent to which the prosecution service is politicised. DAVID MANNION Colne, Lancashire

#### **Emotional Major**

Sir: You quote John Major as asserting that "politicians should never bare their emotions in public" ("Major likens Blair to Uriah Heep", 19 December).

Presumably, in Mr Major's book, irritation and anger at Prime Minister's Question Time do not count as emotions; or maybe he adopted this view when he ceased to be Prime Minister.

LOUIS CAZEAU Edgware, Middlesex

#### Suffolk home truth

Sir: As an East Anglian, I am never sure which side of the line we stand in any north/south divide (letters, 27 and 31 De-

cember). May an uninvolved bystander merely mention the old saying "you can always tell a Yorkshireman, hut you can't often tell him very much". Sadly, this frequently appears to he true. **GEOFFREY ELLIS** Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

Wefare refor

# And now, a garlic for America, and a modest proposal for colonial contagion

London SW7



KINGTON

Today we bring you the second and final part of our round-up of the events of the conting year Yesterday we brought you our forecast for January to June, so today, with uncanny precision, we carry on with ...

JULY '98. World Cup in full swing in France. Scotland knocked out by losing 6-5 to Jamaica, after leading 5-0 with 10 minutes to go. Scottish manager Craig Brown says: "It's the same old story. We have only ourselves to hlame. We had it for the taking. Then we threw it away. I am sick to my boots. I think I am going to commit suicide. At least then I won't be confused with Craig Brown the restaurant writer." Boxer

George Foreman announces another comehack. Tony Blair goes on holiday in Tuscan villa belonging to Spice Giris. First Test drawn. AUGUST '98. American sci-

entists announce that they have developed a generically altered garlic plant which tastes of nothing and which will therefore appeal to the American palate. Production of Disney animated version of The Bible runs into trouble with ethnic minorities, hecause there are no hlack or Asian disciples, and hecause Jesus does not look Jewish enough. East Anglian house of restaurant writer Craig Brown stormed by angry Scot-

ignominious Scots exit from their Olympic medals after World Cup, When informed of error, Scots fans apologise and say: "We got it wrong. It's the same old story. Sorry about that." John Major announces his comehaek.

SEPTEMBER '98. · American scientists announce they have developed a genetically altered tomato which will automatically fall apart in slices when picked, or even into fancy shapes. Tony Blair goes on holiday in Millennium Dome. American promoter Don King says that if the money is right. will stage a spectacular George Foreman v. John Maior comeback special. Many East German athletes are tish foothall fans, bitter about stripped retrospectively of moded vision, says John Ma-

massive steroid ahuse in the 1970s and 1980s is proved. Some British athletes who trailed in fourth and fifth get gold and silver. David Coleman hreaks down in tears of joy. OCTOBER '98. A new. genetically improved strain of hird flu reappears in Hong Kong. It is not being passed on by poultry as no poultry are left alive in Hong Kong.

Therefore it is being passed on by humans. Therefore all humans in Hong Kong should be slaughtered, say world chicken lohby. No decision taken. "If our policies are right, I see no reason why we should not defeat Mr Foreman's out-

jor. "Il murder him," says Foreman. Ffion Hague gives birth to twins. Ffred and Ffrieda. More controversy over Disneys Bible film -- Pope criticises Disney decision to omit Crucifizion and to have God played by Robin Williams as a Jewish father. ("You want to be a what? A saviour of the world? My son, the saviour? What kind of career is that for a hright boy?" etc etc). NOVEMBER '98 Titanic is finally raised, amid

huge publicity. Unfortunately, as it is being towed back to New York at night, it is struck by an unseen iceberg and sinks. Tony Blair invites Sir Elton John to join the Cabinet. "Money cannot buy his sort of

experience," he says. "Oh yes, it can," says Elton John. Manchester United loses for the first time in season. "These are early days," says Alex Ferguson. John Major hreaks a fingernail in training and the big fight is postponed. American scientist claims that obesity helps to prevent heart attacks. Russian scientist proves that the 21st century has already started. Spice Girls threaten to make come-

Secular knowledge

Sir: Paul Vallely may know a lot

about religion, hut be doesn't

know much about irreligion,

if his two Christmas articles

(20 December) are anything to

themselves secularists since the

term was adopted in 1851 have

not advocated an "emphasis

upon individual self-interest" or

the "privatisation of morality",

let alone "nurtured" "nation-

alism". And it is nonsense to say

that we are "drawing on the

moral capital of centuries of a

Judaeo-Christian tradition in

which many of our secular

truths find their origin", or

that "secular liberalism" has no

structive debate with secular hu-

manism", as Paul Vallely hopes.

there must first be proper

Rationalist Press Association

knowledge of it.

NICOLAS WALTER

If there is to be "a con-

Those who have called

DECEMBER '98. Blessed Virgin Mary appears to a Portuguese peasant girl in a vision and tells her that she is, on balance, in favour of a single European currency, though there are bound to be ping. 1999 starts.

longing to Richard Branson. Scientists discover a new strain of flu hug which flourishes only in cars caught in traffic jams on the M25. Tony Blair defends his decision to invite Father Christmas to join Cahinet by saying: "Money cannot huy his experience of winter retail trade cycles." Blessed Virgin Mary reappears to peasant girl and urges her to get linked up to the Internet, as reappearing in these visions really takes it out of her. George Foreman falls asleep in third round; John Major disqualified for incessant talking. Snow. Floods.

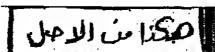
teething problems. Tony Blair

goes on holiday in halloon be-









# 17/COMMENT

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# Two weddings and it's back in fashion



MARKS JO AND HELEN SAY 'I DO'

It would be difficult to find two less likely converts to the state of wedded bliss than the actress Helen Mirren and the comedian Jo Brand. Mirren, despite her legions of middleaged admirers, always said she was not the marrying type. Brand has huilt a career around venomous sideswipes at the male of the species. Yet both, to general astonishment, took the phinge over the festive season.

Mirren wed her partner, the film director Taylor Hackman, in a remote courch in the Scottish Highlands on New Year's Eve. Brand reportedly told friends via a line in their Christmas cards that she had just tied the knot with her boyfriend, Bernie Bourke, a psychiatric nurse.

Two very different women have become unexpected standard-bearers for the institution of marriage, bucking the trend of long-term decline in the number of couples prepared to tie the knot. What made Mirren recant, at the age of 51, after 12 years of cohabitation with Hackman? What was it that prompted Brand to hoist the white flag and agree to share her bed with the enemy?

None of the conventional reasons apply. Neither of these successful and independent women needed a mate to provide a home, a raison d'être or financial security. Living in sin lost its stigma long ago. Nor are there children on the scene, the advent of which often acts as an incentive for couples in longterm relationships to renounce their ideological resistance to marriage. Mirren is well past child-bearing age and Brand, as far as one knows, is not pregnant.

Mirren's case is particularly interesting because it reflects a growing perception that a small social revolution is stirring. Despite the gloomy statistics, despite the number of times that marriage's obitnary has been written. there is anecdotal evidence that the wedded state is creeping back into fashion. Couples, particularly older couples who may have been together for more than a decade, are confounding their friends by slipping away to the register office and plighting their troth.

According to Oliver James, the clinical psychologist, hostility towards marriage is rooted in the parental example. If you abhor the values espoused by your parents, you reject the institution that they represent. But as people mature, he says, they tend to soften and grow more tolerant, and may end up emulating the generation that they once despised.

At 39, Brand, despite her bolshy, manhating image - one of her gags is "never trust a man with testicles" - is past the stage of youthful rebelliousness. Her own parents split up about 20 years ago. She had only been seeing Bourke for about a year but, like many offspring of broken homes, she may have craved the security conferred by a public affirmation of love and commitment. Perhaps the ticking of ber hiological clock had begun to deafen her. Maybe at heart she is just an old-fashioned, middle-class girl.

Mirren, who seems to grow more alluring with every year that passes, told the American magazine People only two months

ago that she could never see herself wearing a wedding ring. Not married before, and with no children, she was once quoted as saying: "I think marriage is a miraculous and wonderful thing. But, like lobster, it's just not to my taste. I don't see what everyone gets so excited about." Hackford, who shares a home with her in Los Angeles, had also said that be saw no need for nuptials.

Then they went ahead and did it after all. Perhaps Mirren, voted the sexiest woman on television earlier this year by Radio Times readers, held out for so long because, aware of her physical charms, she never felt the need to grah the first good man on offer. Maybe, given the soaring divorce rate, she feared failure - or, like many happily cohabiting couples, was anxious that marriage would change things, exert new and dangerous pressures that would end up wrecking a successful relationship.

Why walk up the aisle, in the face of so many compelling reasons to avoid that perilous trip? Virginia Ironside. The Independent's agony aunt, believes that some couples opt for marriage after years of living together in order to spice up a mundane relationship. "It's saying: let's take another risk with our lives together, let's get even closer'," she says.

The prognosis for such couples is, unfortunately, not rosy. Men and women who tie the knot after living together are far more likely to get divorced than those who dive





Here come the unlikely brides: Helen Mirren (top) and Jo Brand

straight into wedlock. Virginia Ironside thinks that some underestimate the impact that getting married will have on their lives. "It's a huge step," she says. "People don't take account of the enormous difference that marriage makes to a relationship. The outside world sees you in a very different light, and you're not prepared for that."

Mirreo and Brand have decided to ignore the doom merchants, and are instead taking their one from the ancient Greeks. For. as one passage in Homer's Odyssey has it: There is nothing nobler or more admirable than when two people who see eye to eye keep house as man and wife, confounding their enemies and delighting their friends." Why did these two women decide to get married at this point in their lives? Perhaps no one ever asked them before.

# They're so out of it they can't face reality (the law-makers, that is)



SUZANNE **MOORE** A STATE OF DENIAL

Here I am back in the land of freedom and reason, having just returned from a few days in Iceland (a real nanny state), and wbat do I find but an unbelievable muddle about a tenquid deal in a pub. It all makes me want to inhale. Inhale, as in a sharp intake of breath. I realise, of course, that even to use the word is controversial in these zero-tolerance days. If you ask me - and why would you, when my mind has been addled by substances that cahinet minister X's son can only dream about - Tony Blair's joke tbat unlike Clinton, had be smoked dope he would have inhaled reveals him to be not a great wit, but something of a social

Obviously, had any member of the Cabinet ever inhaled, they would not be doing the good works that they are now, such as swiping money from lone mothers. Instead they would be kicking their doors down to nick their videos. Had any tabloid journalists ever inhaled, they would not be able to uphold the standards of investigative journalism that we so value, as they would be too busy dealing in lowlife misery and sin. Had any police officers ever inhaled they would not be able 10 exercise such clear judgement as they have in this case. And had any government spin doctors ever attended what is bizarrely being referred to as 'spliff party", they would have become totally detached from reality, and be living in some hazy world of their own.

Thank goodness none of this has happened, and that we have such a sensible drugs policy, and that everyone is being so responsible. The minister concerned has responsibly made his son confess, the tabloid reporter has responsible had the hasb tested to make sure she got her money's worth. the editor concerned has responsibly told us that the young man is into drugs in "a fairly alarming manner. The father wants to be named, but he would be breaking the law. even though everyone has a shrewd idea who he is anyway. We cannot have him breaking the law just because his son has, and we certainly cannot question the law even though it is obviously not a very sensible one.

timonious twaddle and hypocrisy is that it is being done in the name of protection. Children must be protected from drugs even though nearly half of them by the age of J5 will have tried cannahis anyway. The Government must protect the minister concerned. The boy's identity must be protected although it has been so hinted at that it will soon become common knowledge. To ally as far removed from real protect someone is to assume

responsibility for them, rather than letting them make up their own mind: thus responsibility - a favourite word of this clean and sober administratimes, even when it cannot be guaranteed.

Parents are responsible for the misdemeanours of their chitdren, even when these children are nearly adult. They are responsible when they will not go to school and do bad things, because the state wants to shift responsibility away from itself and hack onto parents. Fair enough. But the paradox is that the state itself is responsihle for telling us that it is us and not they who are now to be held responsible. Is it possible to impose a sense of responsibility in this way?

Well, it it is, then how can the same state now allow us to be responsible for what we choose to inhale? Yet again, all talk of the decriminalisation of cannabis, a sensible and often dull debate, is being overshadowed by hysteria ahour drugs in general. The

has been raised. Show me what crimes are committed by monged-out dope smokers and middle-class puffers, apart from the odd hit of shoplifting, and I will begin to take this seriously. Otherwise, why cannot politicians hrought up in the 1960s make the distinction between different kinds of drugs that 15-year-olds make with ease? Are those in government re-

life as they appear? One hoped tbat a younger government would not continue to perpetuate the feeling that its memhers do not know much about the country they are governing. Once more there appears to be two nations, the poor misguidcd out-of-touch warriors fighting a war on drugs that their counterparts in America admit they have already lost, that is full of imagery about evil pushers and horrible addicts, that has Leah Betts as its patron saint of ignorance, that believes prohibition works contrary to all the evidence, that cannot recognise its own children and when it finally does, hauls them down to the police station. This is the nation that is out of control, that has got itself into the fine mess that the minister is in today. These are the people we should be concerned about - the sad deluded souls who cannot deal with

reality except by ignoring it. The other nation just does its own illegal thing. It knows that Noel Gallagher was being truthful when he said that for some people taking drugs was

understand that high welfare

spending can be an obstacle to

long-term competitiveness.

Some of our European partners

know to their cost that high so-

cial costs lead in part to high un-

employment. If Britain is to

survive and prosper, both pub-

lic spending and taxation must

be kept in check, Global capi-

tal, international competition,

multinational companies - all

about welfare. Let us discuss

how best we can reform it to

help people into work, to help

those in genuine need, to en-

courage competitiveness and in-

vestment in Britain. But let's not

waste time deciding whether re-

form is necessary. The people

decided on 1 May that they

wanted a modernising govern-

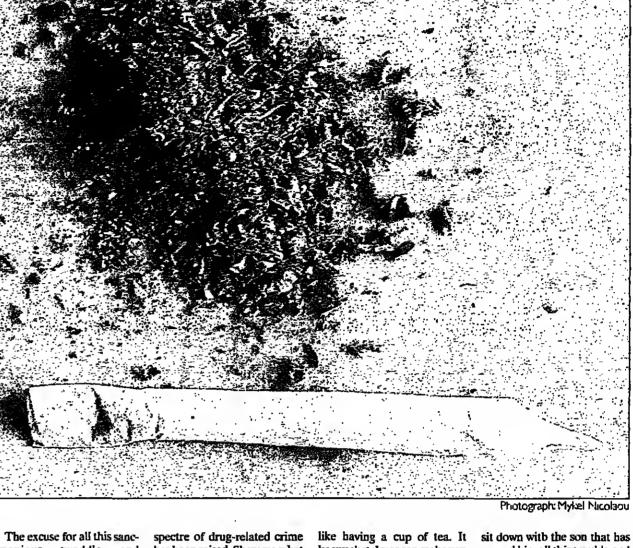
ment. Labour made clear then

that it would reform welfare. It

is up to all of us to help it

So let us bave a debate

leave us with no option.



knows that drugs can make you caused him all this trouble and bave a good time and somesay, not "you are stupid", but times can make you have a ter-"you are ordinary"? How can rible time. It understands that politicians, never mind their much of the masic that it likes pressurised children, admit that could not be made without inthey have also made mistakes? haling. It also made "The Cannabis does not lead to hard Drugs Don't Work" a number drugs any more than being the one hit. It has an independent child of a politician leads to soft mind because it knows that nei-Honesty is the only way, but ther the media nor the Government tells the truth about drugs. It knows that eestasy does not always kill, that cannabis does not lead to hero-

our terribly responsible law will not allow it. Sometimes the only way to change the law is to break it. but that is not an option for a cabinet minister. Those in power who speak of any kind of drug-taking as a way of avoiding reality should consider that they have themselves alities cannot properly be faced. I worry about those people. They are so completely out of it that they cannot see what is in front of their faces; their wasted lives are full of empty promises. One day they will deal with the drugs problem. Meanwhile their own children just deal with it. Failing that, they cach other? How can the father just deal.

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in, and it knows these things be-

cause this is its experience. It

knows people who should not

take drugs, whose lives are ru-

ined by them, and it knows that

sometimes drugs are the symp-

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# Welfare reform? We really don't have any choice



IACKSON LABOUR AND NECESSITY

on reforming welfare. Labour was elected to modernise Britain, not to defend the status quo. And just as Labour was trusted in 1945 to build the welfare state, now it is entrusted with its reform. As we have seen in recent weeks, some in Labour's ranks are uncomfortable with change. They always are. But we cannot afford to let them derail the reform that Tony Blair has rightly set in train. Those of us who remain committed to the welfare state know that there is no other

option The simple truth is that our system of welfare does not work. It does not deliver help to those most in need. It does not help us fight the war on poverty. And it has lost sight of the values upon which it was founded. Responsibility, independence, dignity-values that guided the pioneers of the wel-

are less important than the

possible to prioritise spending across he range of government departments. Nor are people prepared to pay more for a system that does fare state but values that have not work. Each working day. been dropped along the way. every ordinary working man Yes, some argue that values and woman pays £14 to fund the

aspirations of the advocates of Tony Blair is right to stand firm amount of money we spend. higher welfare spending. But They believe more money they are often left out of the deequals a better welfare state. bate. They should not be tak-They are wrong. The Conservatives increased welfare en for granted. For most working people spending. They also increased

know that the system is abused. the number of people living in poverty. Labour will do better. albeit by a minority. And just as people in genuine need have And we should not forget the right to help, working peothe implications of the costs of ple have the right to expect that welfare. Those who demand the system they fund is in workmore spending appear to live in ing order. They understand a world in which money does inthe need for reform. That is why deed grow on trees. The rest of so many returned to Labour, us do not have that luxury. We because Labour had stopped spend £100bn a year on welfare defending what clearly did not - six times as much as we do on education. Welfare takes a third of all public spending. And as

Yes, reform means facing difficult decisions. But if welfare bills rise, we watch our Labour is serious about modschools crumble, our public emising welfare - and I believe transport grind to a halt and our it is - there can be no excuse for hospitals struggle to survive. ducking them. And ves. change The cost of welfare makes it imis unsettling. But change becomes hope if reform is explained, if people understand that it will bring a brighter future. It requires both courage and compassion. The two are

not mutually exclusive.

But Britain is not alone in

Sweden, where at one time three-quarters of the population Change will require

adapting welfare to present-day

nceds. Around the world, in-

dustrialised nations are coming

to terms with profound eco-

nomic and social change. Even

courage and compassion. The two are not mutually exclusive

were net recipients of welfare, is embarking on reform. Sweden, like other nations, knows that it cannot let welfare spending spiral further out-of-control. Why? Because like Britain,

achieve its aims. The writer is General Secretary nations across the world

of the Amaleamated Engineering and Electrical Union.



Grace and beauty and animal intensity: Mifune in Rashomon (1950)

# Toshiro Mifune

Toshiro Mifune, actor and film and television producer: born Qingdao, Manchuria ! April 1920; married 1950 Sachiko Yoshimine (deceased; two sons; marriage dissolved 1970), secondly Mild Kitagawa (one daughter); died Tokyo 24 December 1997.

It was the very great director Akiro Kurosawa who discovered Toshiro Mifune, the great-Mifune made about 130 films, but it is mainly Kurosawa's that he is remembered by. Because of their international success, their star became known in World-wide Mifune".

He was born in 1920 in were stationed and where his father had a photographic studio. He was educated at Dairen at national sports like karate. archery and swordsmanship. skills that were to serve him well in his screen career. For a while, he took over his father's photography business, and because of his experience of photographic techniques he was assigned to a photography unit when war broke out and he

joined the air force. He hated it. At the end of the war he went to Tokyo and stayed with a friend who was working as a cameraman at the Toho Movie Company and who encouraged him to apply for a job there. He erating on an infected patient. sent in his CV, but, as luck would have it, the document was sent by mistake to the casting department, which was just then mounting a search for "new turbing topicality. In the same faces" on the cinema screen. year, Kurosawa produced Nora

Four thousand people applied, of whom 16 men were chosen. including Mifune. They were trained in acting before the cameras by an old director, Eizo Tanaka, for three months.

Mifune's first, unremarkable screen appearance was in 1946, in Shin baka jidai ("New Age Follies"]. But he was noticed by Kurosawa, who had written the scenario for Mifune's second movie, the 1947 Gintei no hate ("Over the Silver est of all Japanese movie actors, Peak"), directed by Sankichi and starred him in a dozen or Taniguchi and also starring anso absolute masterpieces. In all, other Kurosawa discovery. Takashi Shimura, who was later to play the woodcutter in Rashomon. Kurosawa chose Mifune to appear in the lead of the 1948 Yoidore tenshi 1"The Japan as Sakai no Mifune or Drunken Angel") and so created a new rebel movie star.

In his autobiography, Gama Manchuria, where his parents no aburu ("Oil of Toad", 1982). Kurosawa describes the impact the "hooligan" Mifune made on

High School, where he excelled Mifune had the kind of talent I had never encountered before in the Japanese film world. It was, above all, the speed with which he expressed himself that was astounding. The or-dinary Japanese actor might need 10 feet of film to get across an impression; Mifune needed only three feet. The speed of his movements was such that he said in a single action what took ordinary actors three separate with all his quickness he also had surprisingly fine sensibilities.

> In 1949, Kurosawa starred him again in a controversial subject, Shizuka naru ketto ("Quiet Duel"), about a doctor who has contracted syphilis while opand so refuses to marry. It is a truly absorbing film, and at the present time its relevance to the Aids epidemic lends it a dis-

Inu ("Stray Dog"), a detective broke Kurosawa's heart when Festival. It was made into a thriller that won the Geijutsu- the production company spaghetti western by Serge sai Grand Prize, followed in 1950 by Skvandaru ("Scandal") about the pernicious effects of scandal magazines and what were to become known as the

Nineteen fifty was the year of what is perhaps Kurosawa's Seven Samurai, which did not greatest masterpiece. Rashomon. and one of Mifune's greatest performances. It was in several ways a revolutionary film, with a script presenting the story from four different points of view. The camerawork by Kazuo Miyagawa is breathtaking in its speed in following Mifune's athletic exploits, often shooting directly into the sun with dazzling flashes among bamboo thickets. Kurosawa's direction of Mi-

fune encouraged him to act "like a panther": he showed his star documentaries of panthers and leopards in action, and the spectator can only marvel at the grace and beauty and animal intensity of everything Miffune does, whether fighting or languorously reclining in total sensual ahandon as the hilt of his sword slides up his thigh. The film was awarded the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festifor the Best Foreign Film in the same year.

work was Hakuchi (1951), based on Dostoevsky's The Idiot, and is remarkable because it is set, not in St Petersburg, but in the snows of Hokkaido. Japan's northernmost island. Mifune plays Rogojin with expressive inluminous Nastassia Philippovna - another great "new face" in the making.

Shochiku unfeelingly cut it Leone in 1964 under the title A down to a commercial length. Fistful of Dollars. In 1962, Mi-It was only the news of fune started his own production Rashomon's European success: company, after disagreements that kept him going on his next with Kurosawa, with whom he oroject with Mifune, the first of made his final film, Akahige the great samurai westerns, (Red Beard) in 1965, and was see the light until 1954. Meanwhile, Mifune triumphed in not a success. 1952 in Kenji Mizoguchi's masterpiece Saikaku ichidai onna his own production company was ("The Life of the Courtesan not a success, so he built an open Ohara"), playing the tragic lowly samurai Katsunosuke, a victim of love. It won the Venice

zoguchi, while Seven Samurai

won the San Marco Silver Lion.

it as The Magnificent Seven. appearing in a series of Kurosawa samurai classics and more literary, thought-provoking themes as in the 1955 Ikimono no kiroku ("Record of a Living Being"), a deeply moving meditation on the threat of atomic warfare, in which Mifune convincingly played an old man beset by fears of nuclear annihiliation who is unable to convince his val in 1951, and won an Oscar family of the threat they live un-Japanese ford in the 1957 version The next Kurosawa/Mifune of Macbeth called Kumonosujo, fair, returned to look after him Blood, is a poor substitute for a direct translation of the Japan-

ese, "Castle of Spiders". In the same year, we had Mifune as the thief in Gorky's Donzoko ("Lower Depths"), again sight into the complex charac- set in feudal Japan, using a ter, while Setsuko Hara is a single set with brilliant inventiveness. Nineteen sixty-one brought Mifune fans Yojimbo another great legend, Charlie for which he won the Best Ac- Chaplin. It was one of those films that for Award at the Venice Film

awarded the Grand Prix. But it was too long and static, and was Non-Foots

wependent'

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Mifune's only film made for set on waste land in Setagaya Seiiyo and concentrated on television films, in many of which he International Prize for Mi- acted. The samurai movies made with Kurosawa during the 1960s were now most often associat-In 1969, John Sturges re-made ed with him, but he was also in great demand from foreign di-It was the golden age of the rectors, playing dignified hut Japanese cinema, with Mifune stereotyped Japanese in John Frankenheimer's Grand Prix (1966), John Boorman's Hell in the Pacific (1968) and Steven Splelberg's 1941 (1980) among other less worthy movies, like Terence Young's Red Sun (with Alain Delon and Charles Bronson) in 1971.

He finally had the open set at Setagaya torn down and built a luxurious block of apartments in its place. He was ailing, and der. Mifune plays a medieval his first wife, whose divorce had been a particularly painful afwhose English title, Throne of until she died of cancer a few years ago. He still worked occasionally, though he was developing Alzheimer's disease.

Toshiro Mifune is still "World-wide Mifune", for he is the one Japanese that everyone readily recognises and remembers. He died on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the death of

--- James Kirkup

# **Johnny Coles**

Johnny Coles, trumpeter: born Trenton, New Jersey 3 July 1926; died Philadelphia 21 December 1997.

Hancock. "He plays thing:

Johnny Coles would perhaps have been regarded as one of the jazz greats had he not been so close to Miles Davis in his sound and style. Both Coles and Davis had the ability to express themselves powerfully using a minimal number of notes. The similarities clouded the fact that Coles's inventions were completely original and that he harely borrowed from Davis at all. He was hasically a self-taught musician who developed his playing by working in a military band.

The diminutive trumpeter joined a sextet called Slappy and his Swingsters when he was 19, and in 1948 became a member of the band led by the bluessinging alto player Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson. Although Vinson played the rhythm-and- composition provided an eerie hlues so popular at the time, he seabed for Coles's fastidious and was in fact a sophisticated mod-

during the first half of the wonder where it's coming drummer Philly Jo Jones, the singer-saxophonist Bull Moose Jackson and, from 1956 to 1958. the tenor saxophonist James

He first came to the notice of jazz fans with his remarkable solos with the Gil Evans orchestras hetween 1958 and 1964. In retrospect this proved to be the ultimate setting for his work. When I interviewed him in 1973 he told me:

Gil Evans's composition was easy to read, but it was the interpretation of it which made the music. I remember once asking Gil how he wanted "Don't worry about it. You're going to play it right anyhow." He left me a bit mystified, you know.

sure", one of the most haunting performances in all jazz, best illustrates the inspired perfection of the partnership. Evans's

John Coltrane.

"Johnny moves by the mo- amidst a mixture of contempo- tracks brought out Coles's most orchestra in 1971. "I asked haven't yet had." said Coles. ment," said pianist Herhie rary jazz and rhythm-and-blues effective work on disc. Potent, Duke's son Mercer," Coles re- who was with Ellington from with such sheer beauty that I Fifties when he played for the of Bix Beiderbecke's "Daven- Duke was considering writing laxed choice of notes was

me to play something and he said,

The 1960 "Sunken Treaplaintive improvisation. "We

music in the pianist Red Gar- which it is found, one of the al in 1959

> When work with Evans became more sporadic in 1964 Coles joined the Charlie Mingus Workshop and appeared on some of the bassist's recordings, creating music of great fire with the remarkable saxo-

phonist Eric Dolphy. In 1968 he became a member of the sextet newly formed by Herbie Hancock, Hancock had earlier given up leadership of his own band to become, for five years, the pianist in one of Miles Davis's most influential

"Herhie Hancock's was the only group I played in that I got to work ahead of time. I'd warm up for at least a half-hour. ready to play. I had a ball with that hand. I really couldn't tell you in words how gratifying

ern jazz musician, and his band did it all in one take," he told join Ray Charles's band in 1969. that to Duke.) Nance had been also included future giants of me with pride. The album in "A man must eat," he reflected. in the band for a quarter of a

Hancock lionised the veter- century. land and the tenor saxophonist most magical jazz collections, an. But Duke Ellington took a was called Out of the Cool on the more detached view of the while, because it'll give me a Coles continued to work 1mpulse! lahel, and its six trumpeter when Coles joined his measure of prestige that I port Blues", where again his re- something to feature me." At the time of our conver-

inspired by Evans's imaginative sation in 1973 Coles had been with Duke Ellington's Orchestra for several years. It seemed odd to me then that Ellington was so remote from the musicians who worked for him that they had to deal with him formally through

A few weeks ago the widow of the Ellington trumpeter Ray Nance seemed to confirm this distancing when she told me that her husband respected his leader so much that "Ray would never have questioned a decision of Duke's, musical or otherwise". (In contrast, I was once on a coach with the Count Basic Band when his trumpeter Thad Jones reached over the back of his seat and, to great merriment all round, just write 12 bars and leave it to swiped the Count over the head the guys in the band to fill it up. with a rolled-up newspaper. He has musicians in the band

"I'll stay with Duke for a

He gave the impression that. unusually amongst musicians. who normally deified Ellington, he considered working for him to be a routine job. "As far as Gil was concerned, Ellington was the biggest influence on his writing. I enjoy playing in both bands, hut I had more freedom playing in Gil's hand," he said.

Coles found Ellington's music too confining. "I like to play," he said. This was a rueful reference to the fact that his solo work with Duke was confined at each concert to a fluent two-minute improvisation on "How High the Moon" played on trumpet over a backing of sprightly Be-bop piano from Ellington. There was little or no orchestration

"Some of Duke's writing is sparse. Sometimes he might it was." Coles left Hancock to Nobody could ever have done who have been with him for mer Art Blakey's quintet.



Coles: fastidious and plaintive improvisation

many years and they just about know what he wants without him having to tell them." Coles was lonely because Ellington's and he wasn't accepted into any

When Ellington died in 1974 Coles rejoined Ray Charles and in 1976 worked with drum-

Settled in San Francisco, in 1985 he worked in the Count Basie "graveyard" band (Basie had died in 1984), having music of the composers CharColes had shown enormous

talent as a trumpet player. He mentioned Charlie Shavers, Roy Eldridge, Dizzy Gillespie band was made up of cliques also been a memher of "grave- and Miles Davis as the line of yard" hands devoted to the players who had influenced him. He also acknowledged the lie Mingus and Tadd Dameron. fiery work of Freddie Hub-His health declined during the bard. "But I'm more of a melan-Nineties and he moved to choly player," he said.

#### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

#### **DEATHS**

FOSS: Brian Malzard, Emeritus Pro-fessor of Psychology, University of London, died peacefully in hospital on 23 December, Fameral at Mortlake Crematorium on Thursday 8 January at 3pm. Family flowers only. A memo-rial gathering is being arranged, de-tails to be announced.

Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London Elé SDL, telephoned to 0771-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0771-293 2011) or faxed to 0771-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (WAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number.

The OBITUARIES e-mail address is obituarles@independent.co.uk. The

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavairy Mounted Regi-ment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham: Ist Battalion Welsh Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11,38am, hand provided by the Grenadter Guards.

# Birthdays

Mr David Bailey, photographer and film director, 60; Sir Richard Bayliss, former Physician to the Queen, 81; former Physician to the Queen, or, Mr Leopold Brook, former chairman, Simon Engineering, 86; Mr Christo-pher Campbell, chairman, British Shipbuilders, 62; Admiral William J. Crowe, former US ambassador, 73; The Duke of Devonshire, former Chancellor of Manchester University, 78: Professor Sir Kingsley Dunham, former director, Institute of Geological Sciences, 88: Mr David Graveney, cricketer, 44; Mr Walter Harrison, former MP, 77; Mr Alger-oon Heber-Percy, Lord-Lieulenant for Shropshire, 54; Sir Bruce Partullo, governor, the Bank of Scotland, 60; Sir Charles Reece, former research and technology director, ICI, 71; Mr Edmund de Rothschild, director, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 82: Air N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 82: Air Marshal Sir Ernest Sidey, 85; Pro-lessor John Thomas, chemist, 72; Sir Keith Thomas, president, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 65; Sir Michael Tippett, OM, CH, composer, 93; Dame Rachel Waterhouse, former chairman, Consumers' Association, 75; Mr Robert Wilmot, chairman, Wilmot Enterprises Ltd. 53: The Right Rev Kenneth Wooli-

#### **Anniversaries**

Births: James Wolfe, general, 1727; Count Folke Bernadotte af Wisborg, soldier, humanitarian and diplomat. 1848; George Gilbert Aime Murray, classical scholar, 1866; Isauc Azinov, Russian-born biochemist and science-fiction writer. 1920. Deaths: Ovid (Publius Ovidius Naso). Roman poet, 17; Barthold

Georg Niebuhr, historian, 1831; Fabian Gottlieb Bellingshausen, po-lar explorer, 1852; Sir George Biddell Airy, astronomer royal, 1892; Sir Edward Augustus Bond, librarian of the British Museum, 1898; Sabine Baring-Gould, clergyman and author, 1924; Eleanor Rathbone, social reformer, 1946; Dick Emery, comedian, 1983. On this day: the Spanish army recaptured Granada from the Moors, 1492; the Académie Francaise was established by Cardinal Riche-lieu, 1635; Louis Daguerre took the first photograph of the Moon, 1839; Wagner's opera The Flving Dutchman was first produced, Dresden, 1843; Sir Robert Napier led a British ex-pedition to Abyssinia (Ethiopia) to release the imprisoned British Con-sul, 1868; the first municipal crema-torium was opened at Hull, 1901; King Zog of Albania, absent from his country, was deposed, 1946; cupro nickel coins were issued in the United Kingdom to replace silver, 1947; ed Kingdom to replace silver, 1947; the first rocket to pass near the Moon – like unmanned Russian Luna I – was launched, 1959; 66 people died after a barrier collapsed at lbrox Park football ground, Glasgow, 1971. Today is the Feast Day of SI Adalhard or Adelard, SI Basil, St Caspar del Bufalo, SI Gregory Nazianzen, St Macarius of Alexandria, St Mucchin, SI Seraphim of Sarov, St Vincentian and The Holy Name of Jesus.

National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Courtauld Loans (1): Parmigianino, The Madonna and Child with Saints John the Buptist and Jerome". 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum Julian Litten. "English Stained and Painted Glass 1350-1500", 2.30pm.

# FAITH & REASON

# Why the other lights of the world are not fakes

The Christ-child brings light to the darkness. But the same metaphor is crucial to Judaism and Islam. Adherents of the three faiths cannot afford to ignore each other, argues the Rev Keith Word, Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford. Rather each light must reflect the brightness of those that surround it.

"Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."

A common theme in the religious mythologies of the world is the cosmic battle between light and darkness, hetween beauty and chaos. The first creation story in the book of Genesis which is held to he holy by Judaism. Christianity and Islam alike - speaks of the formless sea of chaos, over which swept the breath of God, bringing ordered complexity, beauty and life into being in

successive waves of creative power\_

ning in chaos and the end in glory - is an interweaving of light and darkness. in which the material is being transfigured to become a vehicle for spirit. The three great Abrahamic faiths tell different but related stories of the unfolding of this sacred cosmology. Isaiah, from whom the opening

quotation is taken, sees the people of Israel as called by God to be the vehicle of divine light in a world of oppression and cruelty. They are to be the priests of the earth, their land is to be n sanctuary of justice and peace, and they are to be the exemplars of the mar-

ifestation of light. This is the light of

divine glory, or beauty, which exists be-

fore sun, stars or moon, and which will

remain in that new creation at the end

of history in which there is no more sea.

Human life now - between the begin-

riage of creator and creature. Islam opens up the law of divine wisdom, the shari ah, to all people. One of the best loved verses of the Koran (xxiv, 35) says, "God is the Light ... God doth guide whom He will to His light." By joyful submission to the law of God, darkness is dispelled by the presence But the first divine act was the man- of the Lord of light.

of Jesus, who becomes himself the liberator from darkness and the light of the world. His human personality becomes, for his disciples, the transparent vehicle of the divine light. United inseparably with the glory of God, his risen life is the source of the light which his hody, the church, is called to manifest to the world. The church is called to follow its Lord in serving the world in healing, forgiveness and

These three ways - the way of the people of the covenant, the community of the divine law, and the way of the body of Christ"- are all ways of mediating light in darkness, of huilding beauty from chaos, of incarnating justice and loving-kindness in the world. If they strive with one another, they should do so in goodness. If they disagree, as they inevitably will, they

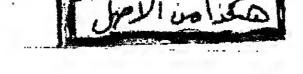
reconciliation.

should do so in love and respect. A resolution for the faithful for this new year might be never to say, "My light is the only light, all others are only light, and He makes His light shine this new year, prepared for such a light?

The Christian way finds the creative where He wills". We in the Ahraham-Word of God embodied in the person ic traditions respond to the light that we have seen, by the grace of the one true God. We ourselves obscure that light, by our greed, hatred and ignorance. We must learn to discern the light wherever it shines, to encourage and cherish it.

It is even possible that the light we have will shine with its true brightness only when it reflects the lights that surround us. These lights of faith can lead us from the often wilful ignorance which breeds misunderstanding and intolerance towards knowledge of the one reality of supreme goodness, whose true and uncreated light they dimly reflect.

In the words of the Second Vatican Council's constitution of the church in the modern world, Gaudium et Spes, "Since all men are in fact called to one and the same destiny, which is divine, we must hold that the Holy Spirit offers to all the possibility of being made partners, in a way known to God, in the paschal mystery." And, one must add, in the Mosaic covenant and the community of true Muslims, those who subfakes", but to say instead, "God is the mit their lives to God. Are our eyes, in



# 19/BUSINESS

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

# Non-Footsie players are 1997's biggest winners - and losers

Although hiue chips dominated the stock market last year the rest of the herd has at least retained one of its traditional achievements-complete control of the winners and losers table. Footsie may have jumped by more than a fifth but not a solitary constituent features in the top 10 shares or, indeed, the motley collection of biggest fallers.

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With their much smaller capital bases, the non-Footsie players invariably experience the biggest percentage price movements. So it is not surprising that two up and coming groups which started the year as tiddlers and ended with capitalisations of around £130m achieved star status.

Shield Diagnostic soared on exalted expectations that it had found a system for the early detection of heart disease. Robert Walters has scored by specialising in computer and financial recruitment. Sandwiched between them is Abacus Recruitment. It is still one of losers' table than the winners. Its shares were the third division players, capitalised at £21m.

The health group closed at 717.5p on New Year's Eve, a runaway winner. It has been the price from 805p in a few weeks.

**WINNERS** Closing price % gain Shield Diagnostic 717.5p Abacus Recruit 330p 290 Robert Walters 283 280 273 Gresham House 23.75p Drew.Scientific 233 221 197 Coffee Republic Polydoc Gaskell Proudfoot 185

as high as 805p. Robert Walters ended at its peak, 521.5p.

180

Shield has had an extremely volatile year. In March it looked more a candidate for the hit by sudden doubts about its AFT blood test. But it survived the panic which halved

Later in the year Shield had to contend of the blue-sky medical shares, Drew its target of 20 New York style coffee bars seven of the worst performing shares are in with the surprising and unsettling departure of its managing director, Gordon Hall.

More positive information about AFT links with Abbott Laboratories, the US group helped the shares shrug off their anxiety. a rather pedestrian existence. At the helm There is even a school of thought that Abbott could be tempted to mount a takeover hid. In 1995 the shares bumped along at 32p.

Third placed Robert Walters, floated in July last year at 105p, has enjoyed the double boous of rapid expansion and operating in a growing and lucrative market. Profits in 1996 were £3.9m; something around £8m is likely for this year.

Runner-up Abacus has had a remarkable couple of years. It featured in last year's top 10. In 1996 it was possible to buy the shares at 16p. Its booming performance is due to rapid profits growth. It has already "warned" that its interim profits will exceed £800,000, matching the figure for the last full year.

Although it was a difficult year for many

Scientific also gets in the top 10, more on hope than achievement.

Coffee Republic is probably the most inand thoughts that Shield will strengthen its triguing winner, As Arion Properties it had, despite a strong Slater family involvement, was Chris Slater, son of share tipster Jim. Bahamas-based mega-rich trader Joseph Lewis (Christie's International, Glasgow Rangers FC, etc) had 23.4 per cent.

Yet it was the arrival of Bobby Hashemi and his sister Sahar that enlivened the shares. Arion paid £3m in shares for their six London coffee bars. As news of the deal leaked out Arion was full of beans and when its shares were suspended ahead of the takeover announcement they had risen from 4.5p to 33.5p. They are now 25p.

It is an exceedingly rich price, capitalising the company at £14.2m. Not bad for a business, now consisting of seven coffee bars, which says it will not make money for two years and will need a rights issue to achieve

Centrica

Share price, pence

by December. The price values each of the the junior market. Of course, by its very coffee bars at more than £2m.

Property is well represented among the hest performers, although only Gresham House makes it into the top 10. It had the dubious distinction of heing the first investment trust to have negative net asset value and at one time seemed a certain candidate for the corporate graveyard. Slowly it has returned to health and is even back on the dividend list. Still, it is unlikely to recapture its glory days; in 1987, ahead of Black Monday, the shares were 650p.

Proudfoot, a management consultant, is also a survivor. It has suffered heavy losses hut is now seen as recapturing some of its

old sparkle. In 1993 its shares were 122.5p. Jarvis, the construction group now deeply involved in the lucrative world of rail maintenance, is another to make the top 10 for two consecutive years. In 1995 its shares were 4.75p.

What about the losers? Although AIM Storedale and pipe-layer AH Ball. supplied three of the top 10, no fewer than

Share price, pence

nature, AIM has a high risk element and its shares carry a wealth warning. Still, such a strong losers' representation is worrying. AIM has had its successes but its crop of poor performers should be sounding alarm bells in the Stock Exchange Tower.

The four top (or bottom) of the losers list are AIM constituents. BKG Resources, it could be argued, suffered most of its indignity as fully listed Bakyrchik Gold. After a series of mishaps the Russian gold explorer was relegated in the junior market. Its shares, now 10.5p, once nudged 600p.

Multimedia, a CD Rom group, has issued a series of profit warnings; shareholders in OmniMedia, another CD Rom casualty, seem advised to rest their hopes on some sort of reverse takeover. Crown Products, a giftware group, is attempting a refinancing. The fully listed casualties include retailer

Share price, pence

Value Management. Tip:

While events in the Far East have

increased risk internationally.

domestic businesses should do

well. British Energy, the nuclear

power generator, has already

been outperforming. This has

taken it to a market capitalisa-

tion of over £3bn, and into the

vestors still have relatively low ex-

posure to the company,

privatised in 1996, which is now

demonstrating much better than

tension of the remaining life of

its eight nuclear power stations.

which it must ultimately de-

commission, as well as from in-

creasing output and cost savings.

It is henefiting from the ex-

expected profitability.

#### Our three-year-old share picker leaves the professionals behind

daughter of our City Editor. to test her mettle against the higher. professionals by picking out 10 stocks at random with the use of a dart.

comprehensively outperform craze, rising in value by 129 that of her father, it also beat the share tips chosen by our 360.5p. Her other tips were panel of investment fund managers by a handsome margin. The average percentage increase in the stocks chosen by Amher was a thumping 41 per cent double the rise in the FT All Share Index.

The star performer for Amber was the building and construction group Jarvis, whose shares soared from 142.5p to 398p-a gain of 179 per cent. Only three shares fell in value and one of those was also in the huilding sector. Linden slipping by 20p or 6 per cent over the year.

get (T&N) and a recovery basket-case at the start of the (445p) and Fitzwilton (40p). Ellen Harrison: Chose this year's selection with a pin

Ayear ago we invited Amber year following a string of Stevenson, the three-year old profit warnings hut which ended the year 42 per cent

Her other hig hitter was the husiness support services group Lavendon, which Not only did her selection cashed in on the outsourcing per cent from 157.5p to Tesco (+40 per cent), Critchley (-18 per cent), Roxspur (unchanged), Aukert (-21 per cent) and Gartmore British Income Trust (+10 per cent).

This year Amher has passed the haton, or rather the pin, to Ellen Harrison. aged four and a half, the daughter of The Independent's Deputy Business and City Ellen clearly has a job on

ber hands if she is to outdo Amber but she has picked an interesting selection which runs as follows: Filtronic at per cent over the year. 442.5p. Bodysote (903.5p).
Elsewhere, it was a story of Peptide Therapeutics (266.5p). unalloyed success, spiced up Signet (30p) Newcastle United by picking one takeover tar- (94.5p), Chez Gerard (282.5p), Nycomed Amersham (2262p), stock, MDIS, which was a Zeneca (2137p), Carpetright



# 'Independent' team's hopes for 1998

m 1997. After respectably outperforming the market in 1996. The Independent's share selections for this past year have, with one or two exceptions, been lacklustre. We failed to capitalise on the surge in banking and pharmaceutical stocks.

For 1998 we have come up with a spread of stocks we hope will perform rather better. The biggest winner in 1998 is likely to be a bid victim, probably in the financial sector. But picking hid targets is an inexact science so the list is slanted towards stocks with either good growth or recovery prospects.

Leisure stocks feature prominently, heginning with Trocadero. After a breathtaking rise the shares have crashed from a high 79.5p to stand at 17.5p. The problem has been not the flagship West End complex but Segaworld, the hi-tech games park which proved an embarrassing flop for the old management team.

Replacements John Conlan and Nick Tamblyn are poised to resurrect the group's fortunes. The pair huilt up First Leisure from scratch and now have more than £100m at their disposal to start all over again. The group's rights to all of Enid Blytoo's books and characters could also turn out to be a little

Greenalls, the pub company, is another potential recovery stock. The company everpaid for Boddingtons two years ago and its shares have fallen sharply since last year's high of over 600D. Now at 439p they are off their low but should climb higher. Management is increasing capital expenditure with 20 new pubs and 600 new bedrooms in its De Vere hotels division. It is rolling out more pub formats such as its Miller's Kitchen brand, while underperforming boozers are being pushed into the tenanted estate. If current

could break the group up.

Our final choice in this sector is Northern Leisure, the fast-growing operator of licensed dance halls. The shares have doubled in value over the last 12 months and now sell at 30 times historic earnings. But earnings per share are expected to grow from 12.8p this year to 20p next year and 30p in 1999. If so the shares should top £5 in 1998.

Another area which looks promising is the UK's nursing home sector, shaping up for a better 1998. Local authorities have higger hudgets to pay for long-term care and consolidation has removed some of the more disreputable operators. Tamaris is one of the smartest

left. Though capitalised at just £18m, it has grown profitably from 234 beds in 1994 to almost 5,000 now. It leases rather than owns its homes, allowing it to expand with minimal capital and with no direct exposure to the volatile property market. Tamaris' management has achieved returns of more than 25 per cent and average occupancy of almost 90 per cent. Tamaris is on 1998/9 p/e of just 7.5 times.

with the shares at 2.25p. Another growth area in 1998 will be outsourcing - taking oo tasks like IT contracted out by

It was not only PDFM's Tony management cannot deliver a large companies and govern- with analogue. None the less Sky Dye who read the runes badly re-rating, a potential predator ment departments. Here our remains supremely well placed choice is WS Atkins. At 363.5p its shares trade at 18 times forecast earnings - modest compared to the sky-high ratings enjoyed by more established outsourcing groups. That gap should narrow this year as the group brings in new contracts. Its engineering consultancy division is pursuing overseas business, while Atkins

> also has a £43m cash pile to spend on acquisitions. This year we have largely steered clear of industrial stocks with heavy exposure to sterling. But one stock that ought to be on the way up is BTR. It had a dreadful time of it in 1997 with repeated profit warnings and was the worst performing FTSE 100 stock. The strategy of selling off superfluons assets and concentrating on its core engineering capabilities is undoubtedly the right one, however, and its long

term prospects are excellent. Another index stock to tuck away for the new year is BSkyB. Its shares didn't do much better than BTR's last year. Sky faces a couple of years of flat or falling profits as it invests in its digital future. Growing competition and regulatory pressure mean it cannot hope to enjoy the same monopoly of subscription TV in the digital age that it had

CITY WI	UTERS		
How they perfor	med in 1997 Tipped at	Price now	Gain/Loss
Sears Storehouse Allders Pearson Hextech Pace Micro Caspian Ascot Holdings British Taxpayers	95p 258p 173p 749.5p 677.5p 230.5p 46p 285p	52.5p 237.5p 236.5p 791p 527p 46p 23.5p 250p 13.5p	-48% -8% +37% +5.5p -22% -80% -49% -12%
Average perions FT All Share FTSE100	2013.66 4118.5	2411.00 5135.5	-23% +20% +25%

to exploit the opportunities of pay-per-view and interactive

With independence for the UK's regions high on the political agenda, our "devolution stock" for 1998 is the Scottishbased Morrison Construction. The shares are up from 235p this time last year to 325.5p. The company has built everything from multiplex cinemas and supermarkets to hospitals and roads under the private finance initiative. It has thrived while most construction companies have struggled, and now has a market capitalisation of £220m. The shares are at a premium to the rest of the construction sector but cheap against the market.

In investment banking we have gone for Close Brothers that rarest of endangered species, an independent British merchant bank. There is a bit of a hid play, but the main reason for upping Close is its good run of earnings growth. driven by the Winterflood stockbroking arm and the ex-Hill Samuel corporate finance team. The shares have already climbed from 320.5p at the beginning of 1997 to 530.5p now. after hitting 549.5p in December. With a prospective p/e of 15 they hardly look overvalued.

And finally, to one of the alltime investment flops. Floated a decade ago at 350p. Eurotunnel shares have been underwater for as long as anyone can remember. They started 1997 at 77p and eoded the year at 60.5p. But the debt refinancing is approved, the operating concession has been extended and the merger of the two ferry operators should mean fewer price wars and better revenues this year. Sooner or later the tunnel will turn into a licence to print money and although the first dividend is still on the distant horizon, 1998 may just be the year when Eurotunnel rediscovers itself.

# Fund managers seek more solid gains

In a volatile year most of the fund John Hatherly, M&G investmanagers who tipped shares for ment Management. Tip: us managed to show solid gains. The average increase was exactly in line with the FT All Share Index at 20 per cent.

Julian Fosh of Scottish Amicable was the clear winner with British Gas. The shares were boosted by the split into two as British Gas became BG and Centrica, and a record £1.3hn huy-back, ending the year 62 per cent higher. A bonle of champagne to our victor.

A worthy performance also from AEA Technology, tipped by Bernard Clark of Hill Samuel Asset Management. The former division of the Atomic Energy diversification. British Aerospace. the choice of Vanessa James at Legal & General, had a good year, borne aloft by its strong order book and improving fortunes at Airbus, Sainsbury's fulfilled the promise of Tom Crombie at Scotush Equitable.

At the other end of the scale. the sickly performance of the biotech sector knocked a hole in Skyepharma, Justin Scager's tip at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson. This year's recommendations

the share price should bounce. come from most of the same fund managers as last year plus a welcome dehut by M&G.

Tom Crombie, Scottish Equitable. Tip: Wolseley 483p It is tempting to choose a finan-

cial stock for the hest performance in '98 because there will undoubtedly be more rationalisation within the sector. However, picking a single stock in the hope of takeover is a mug's game. My stock is therefore Wolseley, is a well-managed distribution business with big shares in the plumbing and heating materials markets. They have produced good returns over the years. I like the mix of business with exposure in the US and Europe and they should be unaffected by events in the Far East. With huilding material stocks currently out of favour, Wolseley, at 483p, is relatively cheap.

First Choice Holidays 100p First Choice, the UK's third largest tour operator, is on the

mend and well placed to benefit from the buoyant demand for holidays and changes in the structure of the industry. The prebrought stability to the group, enabling it to exploit its strong market position. Profits for the year to October

1998 are forecast to increase by roughly 50 per cent to around £30m, implying a p/e ratio of just 13 times. Operating margins of 1.7 Authority reaped the benefits of sector. The changes in the industry ther performance in 1998. should favour First Choice,

#### Mike Grimble, Norwich Union IM. Tip: British Airways 560p

British Airways offers good prospects for a rebound, having underperformed by around 23 per cent in 1997. Industrial relations problems have plagued the stock in the last 12 months and merger talks with American Airlines have also unsettled confidence. If the merger goes ahead

The move into budget airlines is unlikely to be seen as influencing profits enough to affect the share price this year. The shares have reacted to all negative news so far and look set to fly in '98.

How they performed in 1997

**British Gas** 

Cairn Energy

Skyepharma

FT All Share

FTSE100

AEA Technology

**British Aerospace** 

Barclays Unicom Prop

Vanessa Williams, Legal and should produce earnings growth General. Tip: Unilever 52/p in line with (still to be further Unilever has built dominant downgraded) general market market shares in products as diexpectations. Finally, EMI could verse as margarine (Flora), de- well be party to the closer intetergents (Persil) and ice cream gration of entertainment media. (Magnum). Under the leadership of Niall FitzGerald it has Colin McLean, Scottish started to focus more clearly on sent management team has creating shareholder value. British Energy, 423p Unilever has been shedding noncore business and making bolt-

1100

AEA Technology | Brit. Aerospace | J. Sainsbury

Strare price, pence

Brazilian ice cream maker. With an exceptionally strong balance sheet we expect this process to continue. Although the shares have performed well FTSE 100 index, but the shares per cent are moving swiftly to- in 1997, anticipating the benefits wards the 4 per cent norm for the of the new strategy, we expect furare still cheap. Institutional in-

on acquisitions such as a

Robert Talbut, Royal Sun Alliance, Tip: EMI 508p Since the euphoric highs reached at the time of the demerger, EMI has significantly underperformed. This has been related not only to the lack of a hid but also to some reappraisal over trading condi-

tions. The turnoil in Asia has precipitated further weakness. However, trading on only a small premium to the market but

with an above-market yield, the shares now offer real long-term value. The company has had to enact some far reaching restructuring of the US business, where industry trends tentatively indicate some improvement. Elsewhere, general trading **FUND MANAGERS** 

Gain/Loss

+62%

+36%

+31%

+19%

+3.3%

+2.5%

+20%

+20%

+25%

-25%

Price now

\*363.5p

496p

394.5p

2411.00

5135.5

264 p

#### Bernard Clark, Hill Samuel AM. Tip: Ockham Holdings I04.5p The restructuring of the Lloyd's

insurance market is creating opportunities in the new Lloyd's vehicles and the quoted managing agents. Ockham Holdings comes into the latter category. It is now left with the management of the specialist motor insurance syndicate, Highway, and the private client stockbroker, Wise Speke.

The company recently completed the acquisition of 46 per cent of the underwriting capacity provided by Highway (£100m) and indicated its intention to further huild up its directly-owned capacity. It has a good cash position which should he augmented if it sells Wise Speke. At the current price of just over 100p, capitalised at £50m, there is scope for a 50 per cent rise without a sale of Wise Speke, or more with a sale.

Fund managers muy hold some of the above stocks and deal in them.

#### CLASSIFIED

Tipped at

224.5n

396p

417p

382p

257.6p

4118.5

\*aggregate of BG and Centrica prices following demarger in February

#### Charities Unusual Gifts Legal Notices CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS DISOLVENCY ACT 1986 GIBRALTAR HOMES BEER RULE 4.106(1) FOR THE PERSON WHO THIND THEY HAVE EVERYTHING SOVEREIGN SHIRTS LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE ENCEVERSHIP) NOTICE SI HEREY CIVEN pursuant to secon 48 of the Incohency Art 1986 that a weening of the enceuend creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Cooper's E Lybrand, Churchill Piouse. Clarchill Way, Caeld CT 1402 on 12 January 1998 at 11,00am, los the purposes merchaned in Section 48 and 49 of the stank Art. need our love and practical support, not just today but every day. Personalised Hand Crafted Bee DI LIQUIDATION Your unique message printed on the label. PRINCIPAL TRADING ADDRESS: TEPHENSON ROAD, CLACTON ON SEA, ESSEX, CO15 4XA Sadly, money cannot buy healthy kidneys but No additives or preservatives, pesticade free bops. ORDER now for Unique Gift it can make life worth having. otice is hereby given that ian frames censed insolvency Practitioner of la Donations urgently needed by 4x330ml Bottles 05.95 Frances Associates, Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London IV2 1EP was appointed Equidator of the Company on 17 December 1997. The British Kidney Patient Association, UK 48hr service 64.95 Bordon, Hants. GU35 9JZ Lugton Brewery 01505 850267 Reg. Charity No. 270288 Calendars From GENUINE BIRTHDAY NEWSPAPERS To advertise in Your Own Photos! I has some your 4 ferrouter photos: transhured, may nited and one wilk prest you x 1998 full colour calendar-wish 3 months to a page, 847 22 5.50 or 12x17 £14.50 inc pear. Photo Moure Mart - send any photo £12.00 inc post 5 day service. Ony discounts available the Classified From largest archives saved from where has been lodged with the Administrative Receiver are proof which the creditor mends to be used on their behalf section please Dated 1: December 1997 1642-1997. Sently Newspaper call Claire from 1915. Ready for presentation Sate by dispatch. REMEMBER WHEN Louise Donald Administrative Receiver MOTE Levelups of the Company requiring copies of the Administrative Receiver Septement administrative Receiver Septement of the end charge, on written application to the Administrative Receiver at Cooper & Lybraud, Bull Wharf, Rodd Street, Broad Bid 1908. Cheques psyable to The Magic Calendar Course PO Box 6 Dept IN, Mancheste 520 Purley Way, IS Croydon CRO 4RE on **0171** 293 2347.



Leading by example: Warren Marston goes over the final fence in the long-distance chase at Cheltenham yesterday without his mount, Danger Baby, who refused. The race was won by Kendal Cavalier

Photograph; David Ashdown

# Demise of Coral signifies fewer choices for the punter

The New Year has begun badly for punters with the announcement that Ladbroke has bought one of its main rivals Coral. As John Cobb reports, the main effect is a reduction in choice for the consumer.

Ladbroke's swift and stunning acquisition of Coral for £375.5m yesterday surprised many within the racing industy, hut it was the firm's claim that this was good news for punters that re-

The deal with Bass, owners of Coral, wipes out at a stroke £41m as part of the deal. the third biggest bookmaking chain in Britain and tightens

out of 8 UK total of 8,500. William Hill, its only serious ri- Monopolies and Mergers Comval now, has 1,530 shops with the mission would be unnecessary. Tote up to 340 after acquiring 128 shops from Ladbrokes for

particularly important for Lad- losses would be kept to a min-

Ladbroke's grip on the industry. broke as a means of persuading The 833 Coral shops brings the Office of Fair Trading that Ladbroke's estate to 2,600 shops customer choice will be preserved and that 8 referral to the

Ladhroke's managing director, Chris Bell, audaciously claimed that the buy-out will The sell-off to the Tote is benefit punters and that job

forward to improved standards of service and facilities in all shops," he said. "I would be the first to admit that there is a downside in that there will be less choice for early prices. But there are still plenty of options when all the independent book-

makers are taken into account." The British Betting Offices'

imum: "Punters can now look Association, which represents the independent bookmakers, holds a rather different view: "Fewer hrand shops make less competition," its spokesman, Will Roseff, said. "It's bad news for our customers - it's bad news for punters generally. They are going to have fewer offers from their bookmakers and less

The deal also includes 50 hit by the announcement that betting shops in Ireland and eight in Jersey and the Romford and Hove grevhound tracks. "Obviously, this all needs of-

ficial approval," Bell sdded. "We are hopeful that there won't be a problem." The problem is more likely

to be one for punters. Already in recent weeks they have been

they will no longer benefit from two trade papers, the Rucing Post having been taken over by the owners of The Sporting Life. And when they have cause for complaint there is no organization to back them, the National Association for the Protection of Punters having ceased operations on New Year's Eve.

NEWBURY

2.50 IVORY COASTER (nap) 3.20 Brecon 2.20 Random Assault (nb) 3.50 Polar Prospect

DOING: Soft (Heavy in places on hurdles course). DOING: Soft (Heavy in pages on numers course)

Left-hand course with stiff fences.

Course is SE of town near A34. Retivery station (cervice from London, Paddington) edjoins course. ADMISSION: Members £14; Tettersals £2; Säver Ring £4 (CAPs half price) Accompanied 17-year-olds or under free all enclosures. CAR PARK: Free; Picnic area £4 per car plus £4 per person or £5 per car plus £5 per person.

LEADING TRAINERS: □ Nicholson — £1 winners from 96 runners gives a success ratio of £14%; ○ Sherwood 18 from 59 (30.5%); N Henderson 14 from 98 (55.9%); M Pipe

TO HOME TO (183%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody 19 wins from 96 rides gives a success ratio of 198%; M A Fitzgerald 12 from 111 (108%); C Llewellyn 10 from 98 (102%); A P McCoy 8 trom 65 (123%).

FAVOURITES: 147 wins in 361 races (40.7%).
BLINKERED FIRST, TIME: None.

ELCOT PARK NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added

1 3-IPS MENESONIC (88) (D) (Mrs WH Water) R Ainer 9 11 13 A Thorston 2 50-12 ESCARTER(GUE (FR) (20) (D) (8F) (D C Mercer) D Nicholson 8 11 10 R Johnson 3 315-1 RAIAZZONA BEAU (27) (Lute David Kelow Partnership) S Earle 8 11 10 B Powell 4 325-2 MOUNTAIN PATH (16) (D) (Anthony Speatman) N Handerson 8 11 5 M A Rizgerald 5 512-2 RED LIGHTER (18) (Mrs C H Antechap) 1 Claf 9 15 C C (Levenllyn 8 23-94) ROBSAND (21) (Sr Brian McGrath) D Bedring 8 11 5 B C RED (Revenllyn 7 342-2 TAVE THE BUCKSKIN (13) (D) (David F Wilson) C Mann 11 11 5 Mages (3) -7 declared - BETTING: 4-6 Escartefigue, 6-1 Raiazzona Beau, Mountain Path, 10-1 Menesonic, Rad Lighter, 13-1 Robeand, late The Bedetidin 1997: meeting abandored due to frost

ESCARTEFIGUE, a former smart long-distance hurder, had a couple of outings over fences in France as a three-year-old and scored easily when 3-1 on for his British chasing debut at Worester on 1 December. David Nicholson's six-year-old was again odds-on at Cheltenham (2m 5) 12 days later but a missale two fences out did not help and he was besten a tength and time-quarters by all-the-way winter Northem Starfight, Today's longer trip and the soft ground is just what Escartefigue requires and his should see off his six-rivals without too much fuse. Pick of them: might be Restacone Beau, who has had his problems – he ran only the order latern – but won over timber at Ascot in 1995 and went in on his tenong bow at Towcester (2m 6) four weeks ego, jumping soundly. Mountain Path lended a novices' hurdle over an extended three miles at Taunton in February and was beaten two and a half lengths by Burnt trip on his first attempt over the bigger obstacles – at Bangoc He mede such a bad blunder at the ninth that Mick Fitzgerald did well to keep the partnership intact and looks certain to be winning before long after his fencing bow when second behind Hold Your Panks in a hand-loap at Newton Abbot (2m 5t).

Selection: ESCARTEFIGUE

1.50 RAMSBURY HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,500 added 5YO 2m 5f Panalty Value £5,069

2.20 NEW YEAR HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,822

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Last Bruce 9st 13th, Neahwile Star Set 2sh.
BETTING: 9-4 Random Assentit, 11-4 Monraelle Forts, 4-1 Wee River, 6-1 Just Bruce, 7-1 Northern Sandiller, 10-1 Neahville Star

EANDOM ASSAULT, who won over fences in his native New Zealand, gained his first success since joining David Nicholson's team when beating Barnageers Boy by five langths at Uttowers a fortright ago. Barnageers Boy had beatisn Flying histructor, the favourits be langths at Haydock on his preceding run, so the form is useful, and Random Assault can follow up of it also higher mark with good 715-claimer Citver McPhail again aboard. Monarele Forte had the unusual record in 1998-97 of three talls in a row followed by a hat-rick and he had also scored twice earlier last term, though he was pulled up on his final outing. He stayed on strongly to defeat Political Pop five lengths at Ayr on his return and ran Green Green Desert to a neck at Doncaster, so can be expected to make a chose race of it.

2045-2 DLYMPIAN (48) (D) (J Noville) J Noville 11 11 10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ L Pitcher (7) B
F3/211 ROYALE ANGELA (FF) (24) (J Noville) J Noville 8 11 4 \_\_\_\_\_\_ T Descembe
05005 LITTLE GLANIER (7) (D) IA W Balley I M Sheppard 8 10 10 \_\_\_\_\_\_ S Kally (5)
22-22 NORY COASTER (NZ) (20) (Deris Andrews) 8 De Hann 7 10 13 \_\_\_\_\_\_ X Alzpunu
1F-472 ROYAL PIPER (NZ) (5) (D) (AM Darington) AJ Wisson 11 10 13 \_\_\_\_\_ G Hogunu
5023-1 BOLD CLASSIC (36) (Jimmes R Adams) J Adam 5 10 9 \_\_\_\_\_\_ L August

F Therefore

ember on his first outling since Ma

3.50 WANTAGE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Panalty Valus £3,144

BETTING: 3-1 Androphi, 7-2 Polar Prospect, 6-1 Almond Rock, 7-1 Vitoritzes, 8-1 Lakefield Leader, 16-1 Calon Lan, 12-1 Saffy (Bir., 14-1 others PORM GUIDE ANDSUEPHI, unbeaten in four attempts, two bumpers and two over hurdes, can carry on the good work. Charle Brooke's thange trotted up on his jumping bow at Stratford and was essed before the finish when defeating Urgent Swiff, more than three lengths at Lelcester on Saturday, Polar Prospect, twice a Rist where, went in first time up over timber at Ultroseter two weeks ago and looks the one most likely to follow the stroughle home

Selection: ANDSUEPH.

2.50 ABINGDON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS E) \$3,500 3m 110yds Penalty Value \$2,775

sac, who won an arrangems retent at cases in November or his instituting on an years but retains his form well and was well clear of the others when beaten two and a half lengthe by Smith Too at Heydock seven weeks ago off the same weight. — Tist 10th – and mark as today. Royal Piper, Bis Olympian an Ti-year-old, is another to consider, having finished tallengths clear of the third when a good second to market leader Three Farthings at Kempton on Saturday.

3.20 WEYHILL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) 55,500 added 2m St Penalty Value 53,760

Abrimum weight: 10st. True hendicap weight: Hope Matthews 9st 3th.
BETTING: 2-1 Brecon, 11-4 Dictum, 7-2 Daymar, 8-1 What's Your Story, Chamser's Well, 16-1 Folly Road, 33-1 Hoge Mistaka

FORM GUIDE

BRECON is still a maiden on the Fisa and was only signific of 11 on the Lingfield Equitack three weeks ago but he did beat the odds-on Doctoor half a length at Fontwell a week before that and looks good enough for one of the weakest handicap hurdles on this course for a long time. Dictum and Chammer's Well were both beaten a distance lest time when third behind. Handiscon at Eveter in November and Vitamen at Warwick lest month, respectively, while topweight Deymler was way behind in Thrower's Haydock race three weeks ago. What's Your Story landed a bumper in 1994 and a novices' hurdle at Haydock two seasons ago. Switched to chesing last term, he fell on his first two outings – he would probably have obliged at Hereford on his debut except for departing they out – and finished well beaten on his return to hurdling at Ayr in April. And he has not bean out since.

1.10 GLENGOYNE NOVICE CHASE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS E) £4,000 2m 5f 110yds

SOUTHWELL (AW)

HYPERION

12.00 Time Of Night 12.30 Joseph's Wine 1.00 Muara Bay 1.30 Pine Ridge Lad 2.00 I'm Tef 2.30 Just Another Time 3.00 Rex Mundi 3.30 Sidney The Kidney

GOING: Standard.
STALLS: Inpda. ORAW ADVANTAGE: None.
STALLS: Inpda. ORAW ADVANTAGE: None.
Pricesand surface: left-hand sharp, oval course.
Rececourse is 3m SE of town and 5m W of Newark. Rolleston Junction adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club £12: Tattersalls £6 (OAP members of course's Diamond Club £1 accompanied under-ties free; CAR PARK: Free.
LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 54-256 (21%). S Bowring 46-383 (22%). D Chapman 46-47 (103%). J Berry \$2-59 (13%). LEADING JOCKEYS: J Quinn 46-579 (3%). Dean McKeowin IG JOCKEYS: J C

39-366 (10.7%), L Charnock 33-376 (8.8%), D Holland 34-125 [19.2%). FAVOURITES: 477-379 (34%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lady Komaite (2230, Racing Telegraph (130) (visored), Seeled By Fate (20), Angle Milnor (20) Velvet Story (20) (visored), Private Audience (330), Ronquista D'Or (330)

12.00 LINCOLNSHIRE AMATEURS HAND-ICAP (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,500 1m 00440 JIBERSEN (27) (CD) P Howing 9 11 7 Miss I Foustok (5) 7 00000 KINGCHIP BOY (15) (CD) M Ryan 9 11 5

Mr S Levelin (5) 1 V 3030): MUTAHADETH (116) (CD) D Sheek 4 0' YAFF C Bonner 1 V 65500- ZORBA (25) J Hefterton 4 106 . . . . . Miss A Elsey 10 53354- SHONTAINE (23) (C) (D) M Johnston 5 10 2 Mrs C Williams (5) 9

5-40. FING THE CHIEF (39) (C) M Usher 6 9 3 Mm C Peacock (5) 8
5-40. FING THE CHIEF (39) (C) M Usher 6 9 3 Mm A Usher (5) 2
00050; EAST BAPINS (436) (CD) 5 Golings 10 8 3 m

- 10 declared -

Minutum weight: Sat 3th. Interhandicap weights: Fung The Chief 8st 12th. East Barns 8st 8th. BETTING: 4-1 Shortaine, 5-1 Jibersen, Time Of Night, 8-1 Kingchip Boy, Zorba, Ring The Chief, 7-1 Dream Carrier, 8-1 others

12.30 LEICESTERSHIRE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,000 added 1m /0000- SASEEDO (90) P Howing 8 97. Dane O'Nelli 2 B 04562- YEOMAN OLIVER (15) (CD) B McMahon 5 9 3 . 

1.00 LINCOLNSHIRE AMATEUR RS HAND-ICAP (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,500 1m 3122. MILARA BAY (7) (D) (BF) G Levis 49 11.

Sides M Keuthen (5) 8

3122. MILARA BAY (7) (D) (BF) G Levis 49 11.

Sides E Ramedim (3) 4 B

C323- DON'T DROP BOMES (23) (CD) R McGm 9 9 4

ASSE J Fallidor 2 V

04058- ROYAL ACCLAIM (91) (CD) S Prescr 13 9 3

He H Ephgrave 1 V

- 9 declared 
Minmust weight 9st 30: The handican weight Royal Accison 8st 11b.
BET TING: 7-4 Mount Bay, 6-1 Tarthid, Paint R Back, Don't Drop Bords,
8-1 Berjamins Link, Shaisal, 12-1 Proud Monk, Venice Beach, 20-1 Royal Accison

choice as to where to bet." 1.30 LEICESTERSHIRE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,000 added 1m

63355 RAMEO WALTZER (15) (CD) D Nichols 983 Alex Graves 10 CA330 PINE ROCE LAD (15) (CD 87) JL Sye 88 3 A. Dears 49 CA330 PINE ROCE LAD (15) (CD 87) JL Sye 88 3 A. Dears 49 CA330 PINE ROCE LAD (15) (CD 87) JL Sye 88 3 A. Dears 49 CA330 PINE ROCE LAD (15) (CD 87) JL Sye 88 3 A. Dears 49 CA330 PINE ROCE LAD (15) (CD 87) JL Sye 88 3 A. Michael 10 CA330 MEDICARD (15) (D) B McMeth 88 3 A. Director 10 CA330 MICHAEL (15) (D) B McMeth 88 3 A. Michael 10 CA330 PINE ROCE LAD (15) (D) CA330 RACE SE (17) (D) CA330 R

2.00 RUTLAND HANDICAP (CLASS F)

1 DSD HAPPY WANDERER (66) P Hestam 9.7 L. Chumook 10
2 694. MY LOST LOVE (78) M Joinston 8.9 D Holland 8
2 695. PICCOLO CATIVO (25) G J H Waters 9.2 Angale Handay (7) 12
4 (352). PIPS ADDITION (15) (CD) J Glover 9.2 ... T Sprains 3
5 C2421. TM TEF (15) (CD) T Ensierby 8.1 ... R Winston (5) 2
6 2000. LINNETSONG (15) (07) D Chapmen 8.0 ... A Calamer 11 V
7 D00. TAI MAHAL (27) C Thomson 8.1 ... Dean McKeover 7
8 D000. SALLED BY FATE (15) J Warranght 8.7 ... G Panitin (3) 8.8
9 ECCO. SEALED BY FATE (15) J Warranght 8.7 ... G Panitin (3) 8.8
10 CS20. VELVET STORY (27) P Enris 8.5 ... A McCenthy (7) 1 V
14 CO. SWAYBUS (89) M Johnston 8.1 ... A McGenthy (7) 1 V
15 CO. ALL OUR BLESSINGS (SE) P Hestern 7 TO ... Date Gibnon 5
16 6500. ANGE MINOR (15) J Whenton 7 TO ... Julie Gibnon 5
17 George May Company (15) J Warrangh Angle Minor 7 at 98.

METTINGS 7.2 This Ref. 5-1 Tips Addition, 6-1 My Lost Love, House On Fire, Velves Story, 6-1 Happy Wenderse, Piccolo Calino, 16-1 others

2.30 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 6f (CLASS D) 25,000 added 3YO 67
C251: JUST AND HER TRIE (14) (D) JB bay 87. P Roberts (3) 9
C301: SUMMERSEAT EXE (15) (C) G HOTHERS 8 4. Deen McKeons 2 B
62065: JULIES JEWEL (15) M Chapman 8 3 F Norton 3
2048: SANS RIVALE (100) JL Eyre 8 2 OPerms 11
20265: POETTO (25) J Herberton 8 13 M Tebbott 7
6300: MUIT D'OR (74) M Johnston 8 12 D Hothand 5
C300: AMBER REGENT (48) P Hastan 8 11 C Charmets 6
6300: LEATHER AND SCRIM (139) D Nothals 8 8A Michaele (7) 10
6400: GHTED BARIN (179) D Nothals 8 4 Gaire 4
65000: PENRILESS (25) N Trivier 83 Michaele (7) 10
650: WOODLANDS PREDE (81) M Chapman 7 10. M Baird (3) 9
11 declared -

- 11 declared -BETTING: 3-1 Just Another Time, 7-2 Summersett, 5-1 Poetto, 7-1 Julies Jowel, Gifted Bakm, 6-1 Sams Rivale, Hutt d'Or, 12-1 others 3.00 YORKSHIRE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) E2.500 added 1m

7 00005- IMPERAL LINE (42) A Mathiciand 4 8 12... D Windows 14 8 00- SHRAZAN (2011) J Glaver 4 8 12... D Windows 14 8 00- SHRAZAN (2011) J Glaver 4 8 12... D Windows 15 00- SHRAZAN (2011) J Glaver 4 8 12... SD UWBenton 8 10 Care Lund (7) 11 0000- AL AVA CONSONANT (75) J Bettind 8 7 ... SD Owner 5 V 0000- ALSTOM KIT XPRES (193) S Bowing 4 8 7 ... D Towner 5 V 0000- XLISTOM KIT XPRES (193) S Bowing 4 8 7 ... D Towner 5 V 0000- XLISTOM KIT XPRES (193) S Bowing 4 8 7 ... D Towner 5 V 0000- XLISTOM KIT XPRES (193) S Bowing 4 8 7 ... D Towner 5 V 0000- XLISTOM KIT XPRES (193) S Bowing 4 8 7 ... D Towner 5 V 0000- XLISTOM KIT XPRES (193) S Bowing 4 8 7 ... D Towner 5 V 0000- X 1 XPRES (193) S B

3.30 DERBYSHIRE MAIDEN HANDICAP

(CLASS E) £4,000 added 1m 4f

Owner moves Hanakham from Hodges

Hanakham, one of the most promising steeplechasers in the country, has been removed by his owner from the small Somerset stable of Ron Hodges to the total surprise of his trainer.

The nine-year-old, winner of the Royal Sun Alliance Chase at the Cheltenham Festival in March, was sidelined for the season because of a tendon problem. but the decision by his owner. Malcolm Brereton, to take the horse away has astonished Hodges. "I cannot believe it as we've never had a difference of opinion or a cross word,"

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Random Assault (Newbury 2.20) NB: Royal Piper (Newbury 2.50)

Hodges said, "so what the hell's happened I just don't know.

"I'm absolutely gutted to lose the horse as be's one of the best we've ever trained and would have a chance of winning the Gold Cup when he's recovered from the leg trouble."

Hanakham's rider at Cheltenham, Richard Dunwoody, has been approached by Ted Walsh to ride his Commanche Court in the Ladbroke Hurdle at Leopardstown on 10 January. The mount is available as Norman Williamson has been given a three-day riding ban, which rules him out of the race. Walsh has targeted Dun-

woody and Tony McCoy to ride the Triumph Hurdle winner. who is 5-1 favourite for the Ladbroke with the sponsors after a Leopardstown win on Sunday.

"Richard will let me know in the next couple of days, but I don't want to hold a gun to anyone's head," Walsh said. "I haven't contacted Tony McCoy as I presumed he would be committed. It's a spare ride for either Richard or Tony if they come along. I'm sure hoth would like to ride the winner of the Ladhroke.

Racing results, page 21

14.44

_		_	
	THE INDE	PENE	DENT
1	RACING :	SERV 26	ICES
-	CIVE COMMEN	TARJES	RESULT
1	NEWBURY	971	981
	SOUTHWELL	972 973	982 983
	ALL COURS 0891 2	es resi 61 9	ilts 70
1	Calls Gast Slip per release, T	LS. pik, Scentic	

<u>AYR</u>

12.40 San Francisco 1.10 Jymjam Johnny 1.40 Sweep Gently 2.10 Mr Knitwit 2.40 Cash Box 3.10 King Of The

Burren 3.40 Rallegio GOING: Soft (Heavy in places). © Left-hand galloping course; run-in 210yds.

© Recoccurse is E of lown on A788 Ayr station (service from Gleagow). In:
ADMISSION: CLD CT: Grandstand E7 (CAPs half-price). CAR PARK: Free.

— LEADONG TRAINERS: G Richards 33-153 (202%), kirs M Reveloy 28-44 (28%).

J J O'Nelli 20-12 (175%), C Parietr 17-11 (153%).

© LEADING JOCKEYS: A Dobbin 34-165 (205%), B Storey 27-766 (163%), P
Niven 22-127 (773%), T Red (3-12) (107%).

© FAVOURITES: 170-386 (438%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Derannie (150).

12.40 DROUTHY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 4YO 2m ROBBO (Fig) Ms M Reveloy 10 12 P Mount

3 SAN FRANCISCO (45) A Whitens 10 12 E Harding
STAKIS CASHOS BOY (Fig) 8 Elicon 10 12 E Calleghan
57 JUXEBOX JIVE (50) M Hammond 10 7 R Cantaly

- 4 declared -

- 8. declared -BETTING: 2-1 Jyoşlam Johnny, 9-2 Rachaels Gleen, Solegirih, 6-1 Cuthili Hope, 7-1 Rakling Stales, 10-1 Decamie, Kings Lone, 12-1 Arctic Sandy 1.40 HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY LESLEY 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m - 6 declared -BETTING: 11-10 Sweep Gently, 15-8 Strong Mint, 4-1 To-Day Yo-Day, 16-1 Lindejene, 20-1 Bushhall Mor, Chevaller Sayard, Isle Of Rhum, 33-1 Liftey Lame BETTING: 4-5 Robbo, 2-1 San Francisco, 9-2 Jukebox Jive, 10-1 Stakis Cesinos Roy

BETTING: 11-4 Beachy Head, 3-1 Brighter Shade, 7-2 Regal Romper, 5-1 Mr Kristers,

2.40 AYR NEW YEAR HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) 25,500 added 3m 110yds

4-1U23 LINEATHEN (17) (D) Mrs M Reveley 9 11 10 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr T Concertord (7) Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Diddy Rymer 9st 11tb BETTING: 6-4 Sechécta, 5-2 Linitathen, 7-2 Diddy Rymer, 4-1 Cash Box

3.10 RACING CHANNEL NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) \$4,500 added 3m 1f 0P-338 THE SHY PADRE (80) I SENDE 9 12 0
2/440 KONG OF THE BURREN (23) Mrs S Shift 8 10 13
34-23 BELLS HILL LAD (7) I Berdey 11 01 1
P0-F23 MAMICA (23) M Dods 8 10 5
FLFEQU COTTSTOWN BOY (4) (BF) Mrs S Bedburre 7 10 5 Mr M Bred
0440 SKINNY LETTH (85) P Montehn 7 10 5
1P225 KOLAW (45) Mrs M Reveley 10 10 0
222P4 MUSIC BLITZ (7) Mrs D Thomson 7 10 0
- 8 declared -Minimum weight: 10st. True handless weight: Music Blitz Bist 12th. BETTING: 7-2 Cottocom Boy, 4-1 King Of The Burren, 5-1 Bellie Hill Lad, Maurica, Kid-law, 6-1 Music Blitz, 10-1 Sumay Lakin, 12-1 The Stry Padre 3.40 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 25,000 200000 21 2625 PARIAH (7) (D) M Rodunier 9 7 (0... SPF22 PALLEGIO (7) (CD) (SP) P Monisch 9 11 (0... GROUD SLEEPY RIVER (24) (D) J J Gred 7 77 8 (27) UNITAGE TAITTRIGER (21) (D) J Goldo 6 10 9 G McCormick (5)

- 5 declared 
Micrount weight 105: This harmon Sound, 7-2 Virtage Tallingur, 4-1 Relegio, 6-1 Steepy River, 33-1 Mandoviteck

احكدًا من الدعل



Five days of non-stop action lie ahead for the skipper of Merit Cup when the Whitbread Round the World Race restarts on Sunday

Five days with everyone sitting leisurely cruise home. In front navigators draw a straight line one will be on deck for the

There is a lot of truth in what they say, but five days on changes. the deck rail? Forget it. You days. We expect to get Merit Cup into the watch routine Sydney Heads at the entrance to the barbour on Sunday, and that is how we want it to stay for the following four days.

Not that were expecting a

on the side to Auckland? There of us is 1,270 nautical miles of seems to be an expectation in ocean racing that will be as de-Sydney that is how the fourth manding as any I have ever leg of the Whitbread Round been in before. I don't think the World race will unfold. that we will sail the boat any dif-Eyehall to eyeball sailing. A ferently than in the longer sprint of an intensity never legs, even though there will be before seen in the Whitbread. extra intensity in the crew work - like all hands on deck for sail

Leg three from Fremantle cannot live on deck for five to Sydney showed just how close the racing can be in these boats at this level. So, it will be within a few hours of clearing a tough leg. In this sort of fleet racing, these guys are oot here to make friends.

The leg to Auckland will not be as demanding tactically as the one to Sydney. Basically

between Sydney and the North Cape of New Zealand. Depending on the weather, your course will be north or south of the line, or even right down the middle.

However, there will be a right way and a wrong way. And that will be apparent as the fleet converges on New

From North Cape it is down the east coast to Auckland. And, despite what the experts say, local knowledge doesn't count for much in the dash down the coast. The island is narrow north of Auckland and

there is no sea breeze as such. One thing is for sure, everyfinal 24 hours it will take to sail down that east coast.

A downwind leg would be great, but the chances of that are almost zero. It is more likely to be light to moderate, sailing either hard on the wind, or just cracked off on a tight

The New Zealanders on board Merit Cup are keen to get home. Most of us have been away since late June or early July. Three weeks in Auckland will be wonderful. The leg into Auckland has a special place for New Zealanders. But in the back of my mind is the knowledge that it won't be easy getting there. and that is a worry for me.

I have been in some tight finishes into Auckland. In 1990. as skipper-on board Fisher &

Paykel New Zealand, we duelled with Peter Blake on Steinlager 2 right down that coast and he got the better of a squall just a few miles from the fin-

Endeavour and Tokyo fought it out metre by metre to be first into Auckland. It is something I will never forget. It was well after midnight and there must have been more than 3,000 small boats waiting for the vachts. Some people in launches had followed us for more than 100 miles and, depending on who was doing the counting,

25,000 people were waiting at However, this fleet is so tight, it Viaduct Quay.

The hreeze was light and fluky. My maxi's huge sails were barely filling and the finish line seemed so far away. More to the point, Chris Dickson and his Whithread 60 Tokyo were between us and the line. Then we got a few puffs and took Dickson on the inside.

It was a very sweet victory. It was about that time that I tight finishes. But it is not by choice. When Dickson pulled Town, my first thought was that we would not be able to do a re-

will probably happen anyway.

For this leg we will have Tom Dodson - a renowned yachtsman with a string of international successes to his name on board. When we were doing the planning for this round the world race, it was apparent that the shorter legs would require additional skills. Tom will also sail with us on the short legs from Fort Lauderdale to Balstarted to get a reputation for timore and from La Rochelle

to the finish at Southampton. We are looking for a top out of this Whitbread in Cape three result on this leg. Fourth place in the last leg put us back in the running, but what we play of that finish. We had been need are consistently good rerather looking forward to it. sults from here on in.

RUGBY LEAGUE

# **Arnold boosts Huddersfield's** ambitions

Dave Hadfield Huddersfield :..

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Two late tries from Danny Arnold, one of the players signed this winter in preparation for Super League, gave Huddersfield a draw with their neighbours that can only help their confidence wheo they start the season in earnest.

The late salvage operation gave the newly elevated club a share of the revived Hnddersfield Infirmary Cup. More importantly, it showed their new Huddersfield coach, Garry supporters that after the Boxing Day débâcle against Warrington they are at least going to have a stab at being competitive.

Huddersfield were well in the game throughout the first half and retook the lead when Paul Cook scored a spectacular 80-yard try early in the second.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of years since James Alexander Gordon. who reads the football resuits on BBC's Sports Report, saw a live game. Gordon, 62, who has read the results for 25 years, last attended a match at Brockville Park, to see Falkirk play Caltic at the age of 12.

However, the difference in the level of concentration required in moving up from the First Division seemed to have found them out when the defence opened up to allow Martin Pearson and Danny Seal through for tries.

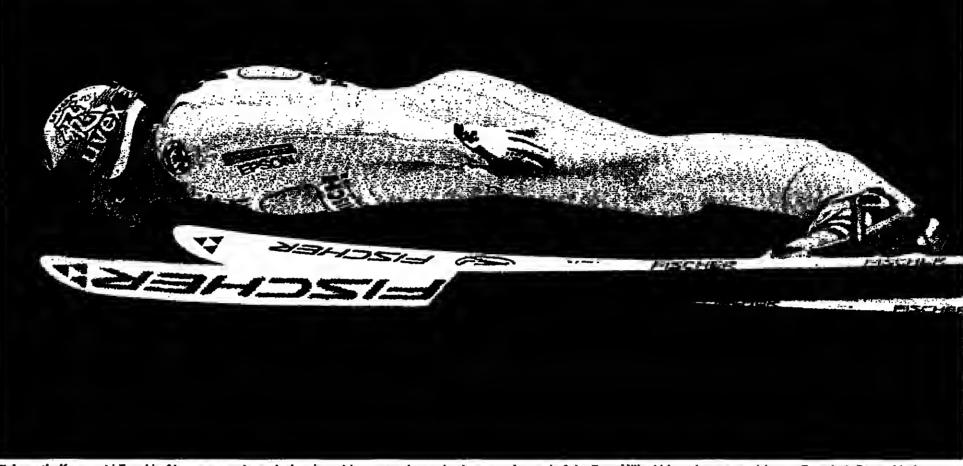
But then Amold, a £50,000 recruit from St Helens, burst into life. After having one try disallowed for a forward pass, he struck in the 73rd and 78th minutes, getting over from close range on both occasions despite the presence of defensive cover.

"I was very pleased with the way Danny took his tries," the Schofield, said. "That's why we were keen to bring him here. He's got plenty of speed and knows his way to the try-line." It was unfortunate for Hnd-

dersfield that Cook, another player of proven quality on whom they will be relying next season, failed so narrowly with both kicks, hitting the post with drift inches wide. But a draw was a fair outcome of a game contested with more commitment than the average friendly and in which both sides had shown

plenty of eoterprising play. Halifax, one of the few Super League sides who look potentially weaker on paper this year. must hope that a new influx of Australians will lift them when the serious competition starts. Hudderdiekt Cook Barton, Buryan, Hang-er, Arnold; Weston, Orr; Fozzard, Russell, Bowes, Jackson, King, Berry, Substitutes need: Moore, Richards, Ward, Adams, Booth, Fulleylove, Milmer, Bell.

Hallianz Bouveng; Marms, Tullegi, O'Lough-in, Marmo; Pearson, Dean; Mershall, Seal, Baldwin, Highton, Gillespia, Mosna. Substi-tutes used: Hobson, Rushforth, Anselme.



Flight path: Kazuyoshi Funaki of Japan soars through the air on his way to victory in the second round of the Four Hills ski-jumping competition at Garmisch-Partenkirchen yesterday. The tnurnament is held in the two German resorts of Garmisch and Oberstdorf, and Innshruck and Bischofshofen in Austria

BASKETBALL

coach, resigned from the Budweiser League club vesterday and accused top players and bosses of ruining the sport in England.

Tucker is returning to Mississippi to rehabilitate from severe backaches caused by a car accident in January. But another reason for his departure is the "disgust" be feels for the approach of English basketball. "I will never come back to

England to coach," he said. Tucker claimed that teams are not competing nn a level playing field and rapped the League for not strictly enforcing the £140,000 salary cap. "I'm dis-

nour the salary cap. If they're going to have one, they have to

The London Towers coach. Kevin Cadle, and the Leopards chief Billy Mims, both television pundits for Sky Sports, were two further targets for Tucker's anger. Tucker also criticised the English Basketball Associadon for failing to give the England coach. Laszlo Nemeth. the support he needs to build a

enforce it." he said.

strong England team. Jeff Jones will stand in as Derby's coach for tonight's trip to Newcastle and this weekend's games only.

#### **ATHLETICS**

tomorrow's international crosscountry meet in County Durham is in doubt after he was ordered home by the Moroccan

domination of the event.

events such as Durham. Nigel Gough, the Durham race director, said: "Khalid is extremely upset at what is going

faces its first crisis of the new year yesterday amid speculation not told us he wants to quit as vidual world cross-country titles 'that Sachin Tendulkar may be captain. Whatever the decision,

> Indian selectors have retalented 24-year-old batsman, in 12 Tests in 1997 and managed just 10 victories in 39 one-day

month. Ramakant Desai, the chair-

Under Tendulkar, who beers. His last Test win was at home Africa, before India were beaten in away series in South Africa, the West Indies and Sri Lanka.

19 January in Dhaka.

#### YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

CAI 1 EMUA

12.50: 1. KEY GRIP (G F Ryen) 13-8 fev;
2. George Diffingham 11-2; 3. Point Duty
4-1 16 ram. 3%; 2%. (Mrs S Smith). Tole:
1250, C110, 1190, 1220, DF, 11170, CSF;
1703, 1743et; 12785, Tro; 17170, NR; Ca-

250.0 (part won).
2.5; 1. CHARMING ADMIRAL (J Sup-ply 7-2 it fas; 2. Faisano 7-2 it fas; 3. No-therman 15-2. It ren. 16, 29, (Ara A Swebenik) Tota: E390; 22:0, 23:0, 23:0, IF: E890, CSF; £15:31. Pro: £10:20, NSF. Fu-

3.25: 1. FEN TERRIER (A Supple) 11-8 fer, 2. Cetherine's Choice 10-1; 3. Ericotin 6-1 6 ran. 1/4. 14 (F Martagh). Fote: £210; £170, £290. DF: £720. CSF: £13.78. NF:

CHELTENHAM

Unit three reside.

1.80: 1. PETE THE PARSON (M.A. Purperate) 3-1 fee; 2. Unguided Missia 9-2;
3. Natitian Lad. 11-2. 8 ran. 5, 17-4, 4) Old, Whoughton). Toke: 5320; 5190; 2240; DF: 5530 CSF: \$1388

1.35; 1. KINGDOM EMPEROR (G lamen 2-1; 2. Assemble 8-1; 3. Walk On By 12-1,8 rms. 4-7 far Vent d'Aout (6th.) 3"h. 21 (W Cay, Fusion), Total C220; E200, E160, E200 DF: £3400 CSF: £9725 2.10: 1, KENDAL CAVALIER (D Setter) 2.10: 1. KERNIAL CANALIZE ID SALEY 71: 2. Simpson 14-1; 3. Turning The 14-1 16 tam. 4-1 tav Sideofhil (Sah) 11, 4 (B R Millian Culompton). Total: 2016; 5: 5: 5: 5: 225, 225, 0. F; 5:44.00. CSF; 5:56.58. This last \$1.223.81. The \$2.68.60.

and \$1,223.5. The \$289.50. Tro-2.45; 1. MIGHTY MOSS (At F Hutsby) 11-4 fax; 2. Ocean Hand 7-2; 3. Turripola 3-1.8 ran, Hd, 3%, (0 Nicholson, Temple Gu-ting) Toba: \$350; \$150, \$200, DF: \$440, OSP. 3.20: 1. MCGREGOR THE THIRD (B Harding) 6-4 Jt fav; 2. Slaney Seuce 9-2; 3. Find Out More 14-1 2 ran. 6-4 p fav irish Stamp (pulled up): Dist, 17. (G Richards, Graystote). Tolin: £240; £130, £270. DF:

Jackpot: not won (pool of £27,875,22 car-ried forward to Newbury today). Placepot: £966.00. Quedipot: £162.20. Place 6: £978.84. Place 6: £383.34. EXETER

54380. GSF: 54/04 History Frished.
1.40: 1. COEUR BATTANT (V Statery)
8-1; 2. Alice's Mirror 7-1; 3. Missical Monarch 2-1 for; 4. Partialan 10-1 16 ran-3, 6, (R Beker). Tota: 5550; 2110, 2160, 2160, 2380. DFF: £150. CSF; £5509. Tricast: 2 39 THO: £2170.

Chuctatown Chance.
2.40: 1. TOM TAILOR IP Holey) 9-2: 2.
Reinthow Star 2-1; 3. Pelaeuron 6-4 tax 8.
ran, 7. Okt. (D Elsworth). Tota: £450: £150.
£100. £190. DF: £550. CSF: £460. Tác: £1060.

fev. 2. Jamon's Boy 2-1 S ran. Oist. (P Hobba), Tota: C180; E140, E150, DF: E230. CSP: £373. Only two finished. 3.40: 1. SADLER'S REALM (Mr R Widger)

Place 6: £55.00 Place 5: £985. LEICESTER

12.55: 1. GANPATI (T Jarks) 94 k tsv: 2. Jazz Track 11-4; 3. Heubsch Boy 20-1 8 ran. 94 k tsv: Castle Owen (4th). 10, 29. (N Twiston-Davies). Tota: £2.50; £10, £10, £880. DF: £4.50. CSF: £3.32. 1.25: 1. PERSIAN ELITE (B Forton) 7-2; 2. Landest Shan 7-4 k tor- 3. Dian Games.

12.50: 1. SOUNDS LIKE FUN (J F TA-

American football The Buffalo Bills coach, Mary Levy, has resigned. He led the Bills for 12 years m) 4-1; 2. Mystagogue 7-2 ji tav; c Comfort 5-1 11 ran, 7-2 ji tav Af-

3. Celtic Comient 5-1.11 ran. 7-2 ir fav Alter Eight. 11/4.7 (Martyn Meade). Tothe: £520; £200, £220, £280, DF: £1950. CSF: £1755. The: £2550. NFL Ledy Laphroaig.

Sharbadarid 3-1; 3. Stute Lamp 16-1.13 ran. 5-2 fav Super Monarch. 11/4: 2. (H Collingridge). Totte: £1950; £430. £130. 2270. DF: £2800. CSF: £5383 The: £7950. NFt: Anita in Wales. No. 11 Anita in Wales (50-1) was withdrawn not under orders. Rule 4 does not apply.

2.60: 1. PAGEBOY (I. Chamock) 8-1: 2. Half Tone 4-1; 3. Stzfing 7-1: 11 nm. 11-4 fav Eastern Propheta (Hh.). 1/4, nk. (P Hastam) Fote: 59:0; 52:90, 51:50, 52:00 DF: 220:50. CSF: 53:632. Theast: \$21775. The:

3.15: 1. BLUE SHADOW IP DODGS 7-2 tor; 2. Bluja's Magde 12-1; 3. Prince Odey 5-1 9 ran. 11/4, 7 (R Harmon), Tota: £3.40; £1.50, £2.50, £1.50 DF: £2.52.0 CSF: £43.77. Tricest: £196.22, 710: £2.60 DF: £2.20 CSF: £43.77. Tricest: £196.22, 710: £36.10 DF: £2.00 DF: £3.11 ran. Sh-Hd. £2.4 [K McAufflet] Tota: £1.50, £1.50

12.50: 1. SOUNDS LIKE FUN (J F Teley) evens fax; 2. When Warbler 7: 1; 3. Philiphelic 11-4. 6 ren. 14. 5 (Mass H Knight, Wartiage). Tota: £180; £120, £210. DF: £440. CSF: £588. NF. Hurn 17 Haw. 1.25: 1. HALONA (D Galagher) 11-4 fax; 2. Shepherds Rest 3-1; 3. Diego 7-1.7 ran. 4. 11/4. (C Morlock, Wartiage). Tota: £3.30; £2.30, £170. DF: £5.30. CSF: £10.39. Thoast £55.90. NP: Sadler's Favalm.

P.30, C.70, DF, 25.30, CSP; ENUSA, INCASE, 245.9 NR; Sadier's Realm, 2.00; 1. RECTORY GARDEN (J. A. McCarthy) 4-1; 2. Haweisen Youth 20-1; 3. Ley & Off 7-1, a ran. 2-1 for Boots Madden (Insented rider), 5, 1%. (Capit T Forster, Downton), Total: \$500; EARD, \$400, C180, DF; \$8400, CSP., \$629, T Teasts 245587.

3.35: 1. NATIVE CHARM (JAMcCarthy) 2-1; 2. Skyrab 5-4 fav; 3. Wentworth 25-1 12 ran. 14, 12. (C Moriock, Warrago), Tota: 1220; Eled. E150, 6330; DF: £180 CSF: £461 Tho: \$19.50 Piecepot: £212.70. Quadrot: £94.00 Piece 5: £82.14 . Piece 5: £51.73.

# Storm coach resigns in anger Skah ordered to training camp India may sack Tendulkar

Athletic Federation. Skah has been told by his national governing body that he must join up with his Moroccan team-mates at a training camp. Morocco is hosting this year's World Cross-Country Championshins in March and the Moroccans are keen to end Kenya's

ganisers telling them of the probwill not accept the demands anywhere else."

federation for an official reason why he must return home. Skah, who has won the indi-

in 1490 and 1991, would love to sacked as captain. achieve a third victory on home aim it is only logical that he should be allowed to take part in IAAF World Cross Challenge

Skah contacted Durham or- on and he just cannot understand why he's being told that lem, although he insisted that he he cannot vace in Durham or

Steve Tucker, the Derby Storm gusted the big teams don't ho- Khalid Skah's participation in made on him and is asking his : Indian cricket, which has slid to man of selectors, denied abysmal levels in the past year. mours that Tendulkar had of-

> soil but said that to achieve that is portedly lost patience with the came captain in August 1996, Inwho failed to lead India to a win

> > internationals. The selectors meet today to choose a captain and team for a three-nation limited-overs tournament in Bangladesh this

fered to step down. "Sachin has it will be entirely ours." he said.

dia bave won just three of their 17 Tests and 17 of 54 one-dayin December 1996 against South

India face their arch rivals Pakistan and Bangladesh in a one-day tournament from 10 to

TURIS TYCASE 12/35. INC. TH.A. (\*): Carmoder, Fartings,

1.20: 1. WHITEGATE'S SON (C Mc-Commedy) 14-1; 2. Good Day 11-4; 3.
Pamooras Lord 8-1. 6 ram. 3-4 fev Gasshouse, 8, 7 (6 Elison). Totac 51/290; 5180, 5140, 5180, 5140, 5180, 5140, 5180, 5140, 5180

2.55: 1. ANABRANCH (L W/W) 2-1: 2. Cimbertand Blues 2-1; 3. Rave do Vales 33-1 4 mm. 7-4 fav Dual Image 3. dist (J Jefferson) Tota: £220 DF; £240 CSF; £584

Surges Jumper Placepot: 21750. Quadpot: 2500. Place 6: 25492. Place 5: 24095.

12.50: 1. MAHLER (C Lievelyn) 9-2; 2. River Bay 5-2; 3. Dunnicke View 65-1. 6 rat. 6-5 tov Edgermon-Prince (unswated Addition) 26, 6td. (N. Twiston-Davies, Chebarham). Tota: 25-20, E180, E180, DF: E720, CSF: £1444.

1580, CSP. 6819. 3.55; 1. PRINCEFUL (A Parant) 5-5 tar, 2. Moorleh 5-2; 3. Karahi 5-1 6 ran, 8, 14. Mas.J. Paran, Upper Lamboum), Tota; 6220; 6170, 6190, DP. 6270, CSP: 6452-

1.10: 1. DOVETTO (A P McCoy) 7-1; 2. Lyphard's Fable 13-2; 3. Sparkling Buck 9-1 9 ran. 2-1 tav Weber's Destiny. 5, dat. (A Price) Tota: 2550; 2240, 519, 5190 DF: 54380. CSF: 54764. Tricast; 5378-74. Trics

£152.38. This: £2170.
2.10: 1. PERNYMOOR PRINCE (J. Frost)
7-1; 2. Tordust Express 100-30; 3. The
Prome 12-1.8 ran. 8-11 fav Joiner (6th). Nr.
8. (F. Frost). Tete: £730; £150, £150, £250.
DF: £1010. CSF: £3182. This: not won. NR:

3.10: 1. IN THE BLOOD (C Maude) evens 6-4 |t fav; 2. Handy Lass 5-1; 3. High Low 11-2 7 ren, 6-4 |t law Ainsi Soit 8 (4th) 5. dist. (P Hobbs) Tota: 5230; £140, £240, UF: £830

1.25:1. PERSIAN ELITE (B Forton) 7-2; 2. Logical Step 7-4; item; 3. Piny Games 7-4; item 4 ram. Het 20; (C Egerton). Tote: 8400. DF: \$290. CSF: 8886. 2.00:1. BRIGHSTONE (Mr G Elot): 11-10 fav; 2. Chilli Boom: 8-1; 3. O My Love 90:30:6 ram. 3'A; 2. (Mr Pipe). Tote: \$150; 5140. \$280. DF: \$280. CSF: \$7755. 2.90:1. CLARE MAN (T Jents): 4-1; 2. Cattly Hang 8-1; 3. Art Prince 8-1 9 ram. 7-2; it law femnesses King. 3, 18. (N Twiston-Devise). Tota: \$370; \$150, \$390, \$270. DF: \$4400. CSF: £3731. Tricest: \$296.58. Tric.

Placepot: £259.20. Quedpot: \$1980. Place 6: \$19721. Place 5: \$1935.

3.15: 1. BLUE SHADOW (P Dobbs) 7-2

cepot: 288.90 Quedpot: 523.90 WINDSOR

ton). Total: \$250; \$140, \$400, \$160 OF; \$29,00 CSF; \$72.18. Theast: \$49587.

2.36; 1: \$PFINING RHYTHM (Mr R Wak-ley) 10-1; 2. Eau de Cologne 4-1; 3. \$pecial Beart 100-30 fev 6 ran. 23. 10. IN Bailey. Unper Lambourn). Total: \$1020; \$220, \$200.

\$150; \$2130 CSF; \$2146. NR: Casso's Boy. 3.05; 1. COLONEL BRAZER (Jr Titley). 1-4 fav; 2. Primither Streak 6-1; 3. Size-inghunst Flyer 33-1. 9 ran. 14, 1. (Ness H Knight, Warnage). Total: \$2350; \$170, \$180. \$2350. DF; \$1880. CSF; \$22412. Tricast.

and guided them to the Superbowl four imes without achieving a win. He re-tired efter Buffalo lost six of their last seven games to finish with a disappointing six NFL wins and 10 defeats. Basketball

NBA: Washington 118 Toronto 91 does not apply.

2.05: 1, MAZEED (A McCarthy) 5-4 fav;
Awesome Power 12-1; 3. Comanche
Companion 7-1, 7 ran, 11/4, nlc. (if Evans)
Die: \$180; £140, £250, DF: £850, CSF Aberdeen's attempts to secure the Coventry City midfialdar Michael

Coventry Uity midfialdar Michael O'Net on a three-month four deal have collapsed after a row over the anxie-ipated transfer see Negotations broke down when Coventry reportedly de-manded a guaranteed see in the re-gion of £200,000 should the move heroma permanent The Birmingham City manager, Trevor Francis, was poised to sign Simon Charlton for £250,000 yesterday if the Southsimpton left back moves to St Andrew's, it will take to 21 the num-

ber of purchases Francis has made in 20 months in charge. Gary Germaine, West Bromwich Al-bions Scotland Under-21 internationat goalkeeper, has joined Shrewsbury Town on ioan with a view to making a parmanent move to Gay Meadow. The Ipswich Town forward Neil Gregory has signed for Colchester United on a month's loan. He poins his elder brother David, a regular in tha Third Division side's defence, at Layer Road. Wolves' Paul Simpson haa baen barned for three games after the first sending-off of his career against

Reading last month. The Premiership official David Elleray, from Harrow, will referee both legs of the Ueta Super Cup final between the European champions, Borussia Dortmund, and the Cup-Winners' Cup holders, Barcelona, this month. The first leg is at Nou Camp on 6 January, the EMPEROR'S CUP Final (fokyo): Kashima Antiera 3 Yokohama Flugels O

Hockey

The German men's team will play lour Test matches in India next week. The series, from 5-11 January, begins the countdown to the World Cup in Utrecht in the Notherlands later this year. The Tests will be in Madras, Ban-galore, Amritsar and New Delh. galore, Amritser and New Defr. ice hockey NHL: Pritisburgh 3 Carolina 2, Buffalo 3 Ottows 0. Detrok 5 St Louis 2, Tampa Bay 3

SPORTING DIGEST

New York Rangers 0, Toronto 2 Boston 2 (of). Calgary 2 Montreal 3, Dallas 2 Los Ange-les 2 (of), Colorado 3 New York Islanders 1: Vancouver 0 Philadelphia 8. Rallying

The Pans-Dakar Rally, sterting in France for the first time in four years. draw huge crowds for the first stage yesterday. Some 66,000 people watched the single 12km limed special section at La Chatre, which was won by the Frenchman, François Flick, on a Honda motorcycle in 9 min-utes 33 seconds. About 10,000 people saw the competitors off from Versailles, outside Pans, the fifth time Versalies, outside Paris, the firth time the rally has started at the cheteau but the first since 1988 in the race's hey-day. The 938km stage ended at Nar-bonne in the south of France, where loday's second stage starts. Another Frenchman, Bruno Saby, the winner in 1993, was the fastest in a car in the tread section the only dimen under the timed section, the only driver under 10 minutes in his Mitsubishi with 9:45. minufes in his Missubishi with 9:45.
PARIS-DAKAR RALLY (First stage, Versatiles to Namonne with a 12km apociationed section at La Chatre) Care: 1 8 Saby (Fr. Missubshi) 9 mm 45 aec. 2 K Shinozula (Japan, Missubshi) + 16 aec; 3 J-P Fornenay (Fr. Missubshi) + 29 sec; 4 H Massuba (Japan, Missubshi) + 29 sec; 4 H Massuba (Japan, Missubshi) + 29 sec; 4 H Massuba (Japan, Missubshi) + 10.5 J-L Schesser (Fr. Buggy) + 1 16, 6 J-M Servia (Sp. Toyota) + 1 19: 7 M Pneto (Sp. Missubshi) + 1:27, 8 P Wambergue (Fr. Toyota) 1.32, 9 L Ragiand (US, Protruck) + 1 44, 10 C Souza (Pot, Missubshi) + 1:52 Middrovecles: 1 F Rich Gr (os. Propins) + 1 44, to C souta (rot, Mir-subshi) +152. Motorcycles: 1 F Fick (R, Honda) 8 mm 33 soc. 2 F Facota (tt. NTM) +8 sec; 3 A Mayer (Ger, KTM) +12 sec, 4 P Marques (Por KTM) +18, 5 G Sala (tt.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football BELL'S SCITTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION LEAGUE OF WALES: Conwy & TNS HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE OF IRE-LAND Premier Division: Drognada v Bo-Premier Division: Drogheda vi. hernans (745), Sheboume v Universi College Duthin (745). 51 Patrick's Africe v Sigo Rovers (745). [N]@Thirty I res UNISTINIT LEAGUE First Division: Worksop v Lincoln Utd (730) NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE

Basketball **BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Newcastle Ea-**Other sports DARTS: Skel World Championship (Or-cus 1998m Purfleet)

SNOOKER: World Championship qual-fiers (Northeck Castle Purchpool)

First Division, Naniwich v Newcast Yown (745)

KTM) +20, 3J Roma (Sp. KTM) +21: 7J Olmos (Sp. Honda) same zme; 3J Brucy (Fr. BMW) +29, 9 V van Devemer (SA. KTM) +30: 10 T Magneidi (Fr. KTM) 34

Rugby League

Ski jumping Ski jumping Kazuyosh Eruski began the new year the way he ended the old one, with a wn, as he led a Japanese clean sweep of the poclium in the second leg of the Four Hills World Cup competition in Garmisch-Partenkinchen, Germany, yesterday, Funaki, the winner of the opening leg of the Four Hills in Ober-stdorf on Monday, strengthened his quest to become the first Japanese jumper to claim the coveted title and out himself torward as the gold medal put himself forward as the gold medal favourite for next month's Nagano

Olympics. Funaki's eighth career win was launched by a massive first jump of 119 metres, followed by a second jump of 116m. His total score of 2435 points was enough to fend off his com-patriot and the World Cup leader, Masahiko Harada, who set a hill record of 122m on his second effort. record of 122m on his second effort. FOUR HILLS WORLD CLIP COMPETITION (Garmisch-Partenlürchen, Ger) (15 metre hill: 1 K Funde (Lipper) 2435 points first jump 190 metres, second jump 190;; 2 M Herde (Lipper) 2436 (140, 1220); 3 H Satish (Lipper) 2369 (155, 150); 4 J Anonen (Fr) 2284 (140, 140); 5 J Soinner (Fr) 2272 (145, 1120); 3 P Peterka (Skoven) 2259 (155, 1100); 7 M Wagner (Seven) 2259 (150, 1100); 3 D Thoma (Cer) 2216 (150, 1135); 9 K Yoshioka (Japen) 2515 (1085, 1140), Four Hills overall standings affect two of four events: 1 Funde 4844; 2 Santon 4753; 3 Harrada 450; 4 Wagner 4447; 5 Anonen 444; 6 Hennessed (voshioka 4345; 8 A Golberger (Aut) 431; 9 S Homgacher (Aut) 4758; 10 A Wichölz (Aut) 4855 World Cup ald jumping overall stand-

AROUND THE RESORTS

Squasii
Tha 11-year-old Pakistani Haider Jamai Zafar will become the youngest
player to compete in the British Junior
Open when he faces Hong Kongs Dick
Lau in the preliminary round of the Under-14 event at Sheffield today.

of a shoulder injury.

Tennis The French Open champion, Gustavo The Hench Open champon, custavo Auerien, accepted a wild card yester-day to play in next week's Australian Handcourt Championships in Adelaide. The Brazilian was offered a wild card following the withdrawal from the event of Australias Mark Philippoussis because of a shoulder initia.

**SNOW REPORT** 

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# Beresford determined to end Newcastle's barren years

When John Beresford joined Newcastle United he expected his trophy cabinet would soon be bursting with silverware.

Five years down the line the shelves are bare and, as he tells Simon Tumbull, it is time the Magpies started to deliver – starting against Everton on Sunday.

Newcistle United have been this particular way before in their latter day era of great expectation and great disappointment. Three seasons ago their quest for silverware turned into the kind of Mersey mission Kenny Dalglish and his stuttering side will undertake

in the coming week. Andy Cale had gone and so had Newcastle's hopes of success managed at the time by Dalglish, and Manchester United were disappearing over the horizon.

Keegan and his great pretenders was the FA Cup - until, that is, they encountered Everton in a sixth-round tie at Goodison Park. Dave Watson claimed the only goal of the tie - after Duncan Ferguson left the Newcastle defence in a suitably disorderly state.

"Yeah," John Beresford recalled, "it was a header from Mr Ferguson that did the damage." Beresford played at leftback for Newcastle that day. He is likely to be in their midfield when they return to Goodison on FA Cup duty on Sunday.

The thing is," he continued, on the subject of Everton's towering totem, "you've really got to try to cut off the supply at source. It's up to the full-backs and the wide midfielders to stop quality balls coming in, because that's when he's at his most dangerous. Someone who is 6ft 5in and can in the title race. Blackburn, jump is capable of causing you

a hell of a lot of problems." Such concern is understandable. Defeat on Sunday

quarter-finals of the Cocanext Wednesday would effectively condemn Newcastle to yet another trophy-less season.

After five defeats and two draws in their last seven Premiership matches, the runners-up of the past two seasons start the new year 20 points be- you're coming off the pitch and hind Manchester United. More worryingly, with Everton and Tottenham Hotspur just six points hehind, relegation has suddenly become the talk of the Toon Army.

"In all my time at Newcastle I've never experienced anything like it before," Beresford said, "but maybe the kick up the backside will he good for us. It makes you think. "Hang on a hit. It's not all glory, glory."

"There's always a hig club that gets dragged down there and I think it's better to get this little warning now rather than when it might be too late. We know what we've got to do and it's up to us to put it right.

We're stuck in a little bit of

be going for us. It must be hard Cola Cup at St James' Park for the gaffer, because he's finding it very difficult to put out the team that he wants to and to use the formation be wants to. It would be nice to get a bit of consistency.

From a personal point of view, though, it is strange when



you're thinking, "We haven't won again". It's a new experience for me at Newcastle and it's something we've got to get out of very quickly.

"I don't care if we have a nightmare on Sunday, or I have a nightmare and we scrape a jammy 1-0 win. That's

The only prize left for Kevin and against Liverpool in the a rut in which nothing seems to what it sometimes needs to turn things round."

The 31-year-old Beresford has been at Newcastle ever since Keegan started to turn things round for the Tyneside club. He was the first long-term investment Keegan made after the short-term buys that helped avert the threat of relegation to the old Third Division.

He arrived from Portsmouth for £650,000 in June 1992 expecting to become part of the first Newcastle team to win a major domestic honour since Jimmy Scoular lifted the FA Cup in 1955. Five and a half vears later he is still waiting. And so is Tyneside.

"Of course the expectation is great," Beresford said, "But I remember the massive pressure Alex Ferguson was under to win something when he first went to United. There was a lot of talk about him getting the sack at one point, but they gave him more balance he wanted in the team.

you shouldn't be too eager to seeking cause.

change things. The thing is at Newcastle we developed so quickly the expectations went sky high. We finished third the first season we were in the Premier League and we've been second the last two years.

"All of a sudden the supporters are saying, 'Well, hang on a minute, we are one of the hest teams in the land'. But we still haven't won anything.

"This year, with us struggling in the League, the expectations are a little hit higher in the cup competitions. But to play for Newcastle you have to accept that. It goes with the territory. I'm going into these games thinking. Yeah. we've got to deliver.

"I came to Newcastle to win things. I've still yet to do it. But this is the season it will hopefully happen."

It is more likely to happen if Beresford and his colleagues manage to remain on the cup time and eventually he got the trail long enough for Alan Shearer to add his attacking "It shows that sometimes clout to Newcastle's trophy-



John Beresford: Trophy chaser



Steve Fulton fires his second goal past the despairing dive of Chris Reid, the Hibernian goalkeeper, at Tynecastle yesterday

Photograph: Reuters

# FA to ask for more **World Cup tickets**

apply for more tickets for the in different directions." he said World Cup finals following fears of a black market in France.

Under current rules, 60 per cent of tickers are intended for areas at Old Trafford. the French market, 20 per cent for the game's world governing body. Fifa, and 20 per cent between the two competing teams.

Sir Brian Haves, Deputy Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, who is heading the FA's security operation, helieves that number is too low and could lead to problems. He said yesterday that he would address the issue when he meets French police and tournament

organisers later this month. "I shall be raising such matters as their general policy on ticket control, segregation, how they will handle fans going to and from grounds and inside them and how they are going to cope with the enormous movement of

The Football Association is to fans across the country travelling Manchester United fans

want to meet club officials to clear up the row over standing The problem has worsened

in recent weeks amid claims of bullying and intimidation by security staff. The situation came to a head on Boxing Day against Everton, when fans and security men fought as supporters were ejected from the ground.

At an emergency meeting of the Manchester United Independent Supporters' Association this week the club was urged to meet fans' leaders.

The next home game is against Spurs on 10 January," Andy Walsh, the Association's spokesman, said. "We have to discuss this before then. The hrutality of some of the security staff has gone beyond a joke." - Phil Casey

NON-LEAGUE \* NOTEBOOK

#### Halifax go seven points clear at top

Halifax Town beat struggling Gateshead 2-0 yesterday and extended their lead at the top of the GM Vauxhall Conference to seven points.

,...**z**:

J- 1- 5:55

The Shaymen took their time to see off the league's bottom club, but two second-half goals from Geoff Horsfield sent the majority of an impressive crowd of 3,194 home happy.

The day's biggest crowd, and the largest of the season in the Conference, was at Aggborough, where 4,693 fans watched Hereford United cruise to a 4-1 win over their local rivals. Kidderminster Harriers. The game drew 22 more people than the reverse fixture: a 1-0 home win for Hereford over Kidderminster on Boxing Day.

The man with most to celehrate at Aggborongh was Richard Leadbeater, a 20-yearold striker on loan from Wolves. who scored a hat-trick for Hereford within 37 minutes. The experienced Tony Agana added the fourth goal in the 89th minute, closely followed by a consolation for Harriers from Wayne Thomas.

Mickael Madar, Everton's new recruit, is not the only Frenchman boping to make a big impression in English football in the second half of the season. Sutton United have high hopes of Naseem Akrour. whom they signed from the French semi-professional club Olympique Noisy-le-Sec last year. After 18 goals in nine games for Sutton's reserve team, the Algerian-born striker scored twice on his first-team debut in the top-of-the-table Ryman League encounter with Dagenham & Redbridge just

before Christmas. Tomorrow Sutton, the Premier Division leaders, are away to Bishop's Stortford, who will he staging their home fixtures at St Albans City for the rest of the season, having sold their Rhodes Avenue ground for housing development. Stortford's new stadium on Dunmow Road should be ready at the start of next season.

Rupert Metcal

# Hibernian's fortunes run wild at Hearts

David McKinney Heart of Midlothian .....2

Hearts' dreams of starting the new year in pole position were ripped from them in a thunderous Edinhurgh dertry which provided tremendous entertainment for the capacity crowd

at Tynecastle. Fortunes fluctuated wildly as Hearts surrendered a 2-0 lead. looked as if they might lose the game, then came close to the victory they so desperately wanted. In the end, they remain one point behind Rangers. The Hearts of the first half were clearly the side that has maintained the challenge at the top of the league. The moves were flowing, the forwards dangerous and bottom-placed

Hibs looked out of their depth. The return of Shaun Dennis to the Hibs defence after an absence of a year appeared in the carly stages to be too much of a gamble as the towering centre-back struggled to keep up

er, might have felt some kind of over the last few months. Fulton change was necessary to reverse a sequence of results which has seen the club go 14 games without a win.

Chris Reid in the Hibs goal saved well in the fourth minute from Stéphane Adam and 60 seconds later he was collecting the ball from the net. A fast-moving attack began with Steve Fulton playing the ball to John Robertson, who passed to Neil McCann and a first-time cross found Fulton, whose glancing header arched over Reid into the net.

later gave a clear indication of

with a boost yesterday morning

when he was declared fit for to-

day's Old Firm derby. The

Swedish striker's participation

had been in doubt after he

missed last week's defeat at St

Johnstone with a damaged

The Celtic manager, Wim

hamstring.

clear, allowing Fulton to extend

Hearts' lead with a well-placed

The second goal five minutes

Jim Duffy, the Hibs manag- the problems Duffy has faced second goal and a Robertson and Robertson again combined, but the ball hroke to the Hibs central defensive pair of Dennis and Jean-Marc Boco. Both appeared to expect the other to ished high in the stand.

> low shot into the corner. It seemed at that stage as if Hearts could score with every attack. Fulton, Colin Cameron and Stefano Salvatori had a stranglehold on the midfield, while Rohertson was perpetual motion up front.

Cameron lifted a shot over

Larsson back for Old Firm crunch match

threat of Marco Negri.

Henrik Larsson provided Celtic Jansen, also confirmed that his Danish striker. Brian Laudrup.

central defensive pair of Marc

Rieper and Alan Stubbs were fit

again, and ready to shackle the

has failed to recover in time,

however, meaning the captain,

one earmarked to track Rangers'

Tom Boyd, will probably be the

Frenchman Stephane Mahe

free-kick was deflected into the arms of the grounded goalkeeper. With five minutes of the first half remaining, Salvatori launched an effort which fin-

Hibs appeared down and out, but showed great strength of character in making a comeback. In the 51st minute, Kevin Harper skipped down the right before crossing for Andy Walker, who stooped low to head home after Gilles Rousset, the Hearts goalkeeper, left his line but failed to connect with the ball.

The response from Hearts the crossbar shortly after the was immediate as they set about

With nine goals in their last

two games, Rangers boss Wal-

ter Smith is unlikely to make

substantial changes. Gascoigne's

relative lack of sharpness after

missing five games through sus-

pension, means he will proha-

hly be involved at some stage.

– Bryn Polmer

a period of sustained pressure which brought no reward, although Reid was forced to react to a powerful shot by Fulton.

Harper began to use his pace to good effect, stretching the Hearts defence and causing G some anxiety among the home supporters. In the 67th minute, Hibs' second goal came from Pat McGinlay, who turned in an Andy Dow cross from the left as Hearts became increasingly disjointed. The calm poise of earlier had deserted them, allowing Hibs the chance to turn the game on its head.

The desperation in Hearts' attack increased, with Fulton shooting over the bar, Salvatori mis-hitting his shot and Thomas Flögel firing over. Hibs might have sneaked a win at the end. hut Fulton popped up on the line to divert Dennis' header. As it was, the credit and the glory helonged to Hibs.

Heart of Middethian (4-4-2): Rouseer Locke, Wair, Ritchie, Pointon (Rögel, 75); Salvason, Cameron, Ruton, McCenn (Hamiton, 85); Roberson, Adem Substitute not used: Frail Hilberman (4-4-2): Reid; W Miller, Boco (Rouger, 67), Dennis, Dods; Harper, Jeck-son, McGraley, Dowr. Walker (K Miller, 75), Crawford, Substitute not used: Chamley.

(ESTERDAY'S FOOTBA	LL RESULT
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Statistics 13 3657 Fickard 67, Stott 79 3657 Statistics 17 115H LEAGUE Premier Of Coloraine 0 Officervite 2: Glenavon 3 Beh 3; Limited 1 Portadown 1; Ornagin 0 Beh 5: First Otheleton Barrows 1 Maries 0 Be

I was lucky: so muddled was our auction

that West led the OJ. I cashed OA.K.

risked coming to hand with a club, and

discarded ™K on Q. Now I could try for an overtrick. Living dangerously, I risked a

club ruff and ruffed a beart on the table to

A colleague later admitted to minus 100

try the trump finesse. No joy, but no ruff,

auction had attracted a heart lead, but his

shifty look suggested that I should probe

more deeply. It was a sad tale. For some

simple trump finesse. When this failed,

CHESS NEWS: Full coverage of

will appear in tomorrow's paper.

West lost no time in switching to a heart.

theAdams-Anand world chess semi-final

unfathomable reason. West had led the \$2

against 6 . This was so clearly a singleton (!), that declarer decided his best bet was a

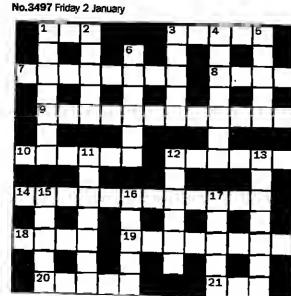
and plus 1.430 was an excellent score.

on the hand, Obviously, I thought, his

DOMES. INTERLINIK EXPRESS WIDLAND ALLIANCE:

# with the pace of the game. **GAMES**

# CONCISE CROSSWORD



#### **ACROSS**

19 20	Preserve (3) Creator (5) Flying (8) Brass instrument (4) Mislaid items (4,8) Really (6) Hurry along (6) Seasonal song (4,4,4 Rustic accent (4) Court of justice (8) Stratum (5) Brick carrier (3)

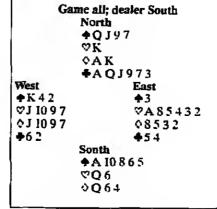
## DOWN

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# Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Donne, 4 John (Dungeon), 8 Pageant, 9 Chide, 10 Rota, 11 Taxpayer, 12 Deliberations, 15 Complain, 17 Avid, 20 Deign, 21 Arizona, 22 Stye, 23 Yarns. DOWN: 1 Digital, 2 Neat, 3 Extraordinary, 4 Jackpot, 5 Hairy, 6 Spur, 7 Debris, 12 Decide, 13 Balance, 14 Obvious, 16 Moist, 18 Dear, 19 Liar.

#### BRIDGE: ALAN HIRON



Most pairs reached 6 

on this deal - not the greatest of contracts, but reasonable enough. With the trump finesse wrong, it looks as though everything depends on the lead: if West chooses a heart, it is all over.

## CHOICE: PLAY

Klaxons, Trumpets and Raspberries, Gate Theatre, London WII (0171-229 0706)

Most people's image of a winner of the Nobel prize for literature is male, worthy and wizened. Dario Fo is only the first of these. He has been described as one of the funniest performers alive for his solo piece. Mistero Buffo. Fo is the man who put explosive comedy into political theatre with smash hits such as Accidental Death of an Anarchist, which conquered the West End of all places. The same happened with Can't Pay, Won't Pay. Klaxons, Trumpets and Raspberries is a new production from the (bideously named) Juggling Fiends, who made a splash with Graham Greene's The End of the Affair. The show first appeared here with Griff Rhys Jones in the hilarious double role of a Fiat boss who survives an assassination attempt thanks to a worker, but then mistakenly is given the worker's features during plastic surgery. You can only begin to guess the rest.

David Benedict

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Carlotte State

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#### The Face (7.30pm BBC2) It is appropriate that, in a story of two descripting a wall of rock after an elongated mouthpiece. them should forget their tooth-Nancy Feagin and Barry Blanare flown deep into Canada's. west territory to climb the wet steep Mount Proboscis, a daunting

which has never been climbed

TODAY'S PICK

before. This humbling film, the first in a series of six, is a tale of daring. bravery and the reluctance of people to exhange implements of personal hygiene, even if they are several thousand feet up in the air.

Stella Street (10.15pm BBC2) What on first viewing appeared to be e mere forum for a few camped-up

impressions turned into a wonderfully silly series which, sadly, comes to an end tonight as Phil Cornwell and John Sessions's celebrity-rich Surbiton finally implodes under the weight of its own egos. No match for last night's episode (in which Jimmy Hill popped round to Al Pacino's to borrow a cake nozzle and Joe Pesci hed e lobotomy) but still top entertainment.



Sessions and Cornwell: 'Stella Street', BBC2

# THE FILM

Nosferatu, a Symphony of Horrors (1.05pm C4) A television premiere for FW Murnau's 1922 silent classic, a vampire tale which drew heavily from Dracula, Francis Ford Coppola called it "the greatest movie ever made on the Dracula theme" and this is due in part to Muroau's photographic brilliance and his feel for the essence of his subject. So what if he stole Bram Stoker's plot and was sued by Stoker's widow for his trouble; he more than anyone captured the terror of the story. Max Schreck's cadaverous Count is a fearful creation, still scary after all these years.

Ad Faces of Islam (S) (2052937). 7.00 News Weather (T) (8891753). (R) (1275802). 7:15 Teletubbies (S) (2024598). 7.40 The Busy World of Filchard Scany (R) (S) (8453531). 8.05 Casper Classics (T) (7621753). 8.30 Mighty Max (R) (S) (4567531). 8.55 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest (R) (4586666). 9.20 Blue Peler Review

of the Year (R) (S) (T) (5041840). 9.50
Teletubbies (S) (2125173).
10.20 News; Weather (T) (6396463).
10.30 Film The Shaggy DA (Robert Slevenson 1976 US). Pleasant Disney cornedy about e lawyer who finds an ancient ring which turns him into e . shaggy sheep dog (63666). 12.00 The Good Life (R) (1) (22227). 12.30

Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook (S) (25802). 1.00 News (T) (27803802). 1.15 Neighbours (S) (T) (11806869). 1.40 Suburban Commando (Burt Kennedy 1991 US). American wrestler Hulk Hogan aquits himsell well as an alien who crash-lands in suburban America. Christopher Lloyd is his excellent self as the dad of the lamily he

comes to stay with (S) (T) (3839734). 3.00 Vets in Practice (S) (T) (3260). 3.30 Film Star Trek V: the Final Frontier (William Shatner 1989 US). An adventure too far for the geriatric astronauts with Captain Kirk going all deep on us. A disappointment which may upset fans (S) (T) (441482). 5.10 Children's BBC: Blue Peter (S) (T)

(5782918). 5.35 Neighbours (S) (T) (298024). 6.00 News; Weather (T) (936173). 6.15 Regional News (7) (964956). 6.30 (Rent-a-Kid (Fred Gerber 1995) Can). Christopher Lloyd again, this time with Leslie Nielsen in e pleasant comedy about a businessman (Neilsen) who rents out orphans to prospective parents (S) (4408043).

7.55 Only Fools and Horses. Det's application for a home improvement grant is turned down by the local councit (R) (S) (T) (624937). 8.55 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates.

The case of the expelled nephew (S) (7) (790005). 9.45 News; Weather (7) (178598). 10.05 Shirley Bassey: This is My Life!

(S) (203376). 10.50 International Come Dancing, From the Royal Albert Hall (S) (571314). 11.50 Film Carry On Behind (Gerald Thomas 1975 UK). Professor Crump enlists a band of students to excavate a Roman encampment in Britain.

Below-par Cany-ons (7) (350208).

1.20 Film Story of a Love Story (John Frankenheimer 1973 Fr). A writer living in Paris with his American wife and . 5 . . - . . . . . . . . . . . . . . three sons falls madly in love with a girl he meets in e museum (574390). 3.00 Joins BBC News 24 (3597999).

To Zam REGIONS: Scotland 8.30 Are You Being . Served? 7.00 Film: Rent-e-Kid 8.25 -8.55 The Wogan Years 10.50 Friday Sportscene 11.35 International Come

# BBC2

6.55 Em Each Dawn I Die (William Keighley 1939 US). James Cagney as e pugnacious newspaper reporter in a

ounchy melodrama (5467531).

6.20 The Roaring Twenties (Raoul Waleh 1939 US). Cagney again in a splendid gangster movie screened lar too early in the day (11447918). 10.05 The Art of Singing (S) (2136821). 11.05 The Great Caruso (Richard

Thorpe 1951 US). Superficial and sentimental musical biography of the legendary tenor Enrico Caruso, focusing on his romance with Dorothy Benjamin. Starring the silver-tonsified Mario Lanza (81672802)

Mano Lanza, (816/2602).

12.50 The Art of Singing (S) (6186173).

1.50 James Stewart - the Last of the Good Guys (R) (S) (T) (3678376).

2.40 Film Winchester '73 (Anthony Mann 1950 US). Jamee Stewart is the sharp-shooter tracking his fether's murderer who wins the eponymous gun in a shooting contest. A tong chase for the stolen rifle ends with a nervy gun battle. A lean and moody

outing from Stewart (7140460).
4.10 Film Strategic Air Command (Anthony Mann 1955 US). Saga most notable for its dramatic aerial shots of US Air Force bombers. James Stewart plays a professional baseball player recalled to military service because of the flying skills he acquired during World War Two. (49088918). 5.00 The Simpsons (R) (S) (T) (681111).

6.20 Star Trek (R) (T) (263395). 7.15 Electric Circus (S) (706314). 7.30 The Face. See Today's Pick, above

8.00 The Fred Dibnah Story. Kicking off a new screening of steeplejack high-lights, including the job that made him tamous (R) (S) (T) (2531). 8.30 Gardeners' World (S) (T) (1656)

9.00 Blackadder's Christmas Carol. Rerun seasonal comedy special, se! in 1850. On Christmas Eve, just as he has tucked himself into bed, Ebenezei Blackadder's relatives decide to pay him e visit (R) (S) (T) (148918).

9.45 Game On. Flat comedy series about three flatmates (S) (T) (665821) 10.15 Stella Street. See Today's Pick. above (S) (T) (858482). 10.30 The Armistice Party Bucket.

Highlights from the freshest satincal cornedy show on television. Friday Night Armistice. Starring Armando nucci, Peter Baynham and David Schneider. (S) (T) (55078). 11.00 Gary Larson's Tales from The Far

Side. Award-winning animated version of the tamous cartoons (R) (S) (3005). 11.30 Film Bodies, Rest end Motion (Michael Steinberg 1993 US). Roger Hedden adapted his own play about four soul-searching twentysomethings living in Arizona who attempt to untangle their lives. Tim Roth, Enc. Stolz and Bridget Fonda star in a film which is a little too chilled-out to keep

our interest (21444). 1.00 Clive Berker's A-Z of Horror (1) (1051574). 145 The Cask of Amontillado (S) (8866406). To 2.10am

6.00 GMTV (9357227). 9.25 The Fantastic Voyages of Sinbad the Sallor (S) (5042579): 9.55 London Today (T) (8595376): 10.00 Freekazoid! (S)

(79208). 10.30 Cartoon Time (4161289). 10.50 Film Bingo (Matthew Robbins 1991 US). Syrupy kiddie comedy drama in which an abandoned circus dog is (aken in by a young boy. Don't allow yourself to be (5) (7) (3038024). 12.20 Your Shout (7198482). 12.30 News; Weather (7) (7076840). 12.55 London

1.30 Film Airport 80 - the Concorde (David Lowell Rich 1979 USt. High camp and mid-air shenanigans on board e Concorde llight from Washington to Moscow with members of the Russian and American Olympic teams on board. Spol the deliberate mistake (S) (T) (41647).

Today (T) (5217005).

3.30 ITN News Headlines (1) (6340043).
3.40 London Today (7) (6280227).
3.45 Im Bronco Billy (Clint Eastwood 1980 US). Clint stars in this gentle parody of himself as a shoe salesman lumed sharpshooting, knife-throwing

cowboy (S) (T) (101227). 5.40 News; Weather (T) (171918). 6.00 London Weekend Tonight (T)

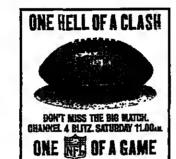
6.10 Terrors of the Deep (R) (512173). 7.00 Bruce's Price Is Right (S) (T) (5127) 7.30 Coronation Street. Deirdre struggles to pick up the pieces. Cheer up chuck - to borrow a line from Jagged Edge. "Forget him, he was trash". (7) (11). 8.00 The Bill (T) (9685).

8.30 Blind Men (S) (T) (B192). 9.00 Film The Distinguished Gentle-men Jonathan Lynn 1992 US: Eddie Murphy fairly successfully reprises his Tracing Places role in this often amusing political satire (S) (T) (7550). 11.00 ITN News; Weather. (T) (467482).

London Weekend Tonight (748669)
Film Hermful Intent (John Pattersec. 1993 i.ISr. So-so tholler about a doctor and former morphine addict accused of murder (SI (7) (929173). 1.10 Box Office America (5532715) 2.10 Film Deadly Encounter (William A

to convince as a veteran combat prior in Mexico (S) (802406). **3.50 Rockmania** (R) (S) (7-76660). **4.45** (TV Sport Classics (50682945) 5.05 Collins and Manchie's Move Club (F) (S) (6098116) 5.30 News (2416425) To 6am

Granam 1972 US) Larry Hagman lails



# CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5 VARIATIONS

6.00 Sesame Street (S) (42227). 7.00 The Babysitters' Club (R) (4454005). 7.35 Two Slupid Dogs (S) (8489956) 8.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (67463). 10.00 Zig and Zeg's Big Morning: Happy Days (8054173). 10.35 Zig and Zag's Big Morning: Saved by the Bell: Wedding in Las Vegas (R) (S) (T) (8335005). **1L05** Zig and Zag's Big Morning: Moeshe (S) (5506579). **1L30** Zig and Zag'e Big Morning: The Mon-kees (5154550). 12.05 Zig and Zag's Big Morning: Coping with... (S) 1819550). 12.35 Zig and Zag's Big

Moming Coping with . (S) (7061918).

105 Film Nosferstu (FW Mumau 1922
Ger. See Today's Film, above (86877043).

2.45 Film How to Marry a Millionaire (Jean Negulesco 1953 US). Witty tale about three beautiful models (Marilyn Monroe, Lauren Bacall and Betty Grable) who move into a plush New York apartment with a plan to land e trio of millionaires. It's no Gentleman Prefer Blondes bul Monroe stands out as a myopic bimbo (7) (86091043).

4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (24) 5.00 Ricki Lake. Fal is the sludio audience issue (1043). 5.30 Quilts in Women's Lives (R) (T) (76). 6.00 Best of TFI Friday (S) (T) (26531). 7.00 News; Weather (T) (8579). 7.30 The Typewriter, the Rifle and the

Movie Cemera. Intriguing documenlary screened as a tribute to writer, produces and director Sam Fulles, who died earlier last year It features an interview with Fuller by actor Tim. Robbins while hipsters such as Quentin Tarantino, Jim Jarmusch and Martin Scoisese queue up to pay tribute to the old times (R) (S) (T) (98799)

8.30 Brooksida. Jackie tetts Lindsay that slaying with bad boy Barry will leed to heartache (S) (T) (6734).
9.00 Mery Shelley's Franken-

stein (Kenneth Branagh 1994 US) Our ken took on too much with Mary Shelley's lale - as director, co-producer and star the film slips away, with only De Niro putting in a monster performance Helena Bonham Carter, Richard Briefs. Robert Hardy and John Cleese are among the cast who laif to deliver but the buck stops with Branagh whose over-ambitious effort. rather misses the point (T) (45035395). 11.20 Bill Bailey Live. The talented musician/comedian (ive from London's

Bloomsbury thealie (S) (356482) 12.25 Film Countess Drecula | Peler Sasdy 1970 UET Hammer horror yarn in which are ageing Hungarian countess bathes in the blood of slain virgins to

2.05 Shock Corridor (Samuel Fuller 1963 US) Powerful melodiama about a reporter's obsession with winning the Publicer Prize (TI (747845) 4.00 Fim Park Row. (Samuel Fuller 1952) US: Newspaper drama set in the

1680s about an editor whose efforts to establish his own paper are challenged by a former publisher's dirty-tricks campaign (299852) 5.40 Terrytoons (8963951) To 6am

6.00 Dappledown Farm (R) (6687024). 6.30 Wind in the Willows (56622024). 6.50 Mr Men and Little Miss (S) (94959918). 7.00 Wimzie's House (R) (6522173). 7.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks (6541208). 8.00 Havakazoo (R) (S) (7277802). 8.30 Adventures ol the Bush Patrol (R) (S) (7276173). 9.00 S(ickin' Around (R) (7290753). 9.30 Wishbone (R) (8782901). 10.00 Enid Blyton - The Secret Mountain (75711005). 11.50 Animal Xtremes (43635802). **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (7287289). **12.30** Family Affeirs (S) (7) (9894727). 1.00 5 News Update (S) (76397956).

Sunset Beach. Olivia tries to stop Cole spilling the beans about their affair in the winningly dreadful US

soap (S) (T) (9150531). 2.00 Animal Xtremes (73365598). 2.10 The Yearling (Rod Hardy 1994 US). Sugary remake of the wellregarded 1964 version, the touching story of e young boy from a poor lamlly who betriends a deer. His parents allow him to keep the orphaned fawn. but when it begins eating their crops. an appointment is swiftly made at the

abbatoir. (9777840).
Film Witness for the Prosecution (Alan Gibson 1982 US). Madefor-TV version remake of Billy Wilder's nail-biting courtroom drama with Diana Rigg slipping comfortably into Marlene Dietrich'e shoes. (95386442). 6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (8203395).

6.30 Family Affairs. Maria and Mel discover that Duncan's theme bar has gone bust, poor lad (S) (T) (8294647) Family Affairs - The Story So Far. How time flies - the bland soap celebrates its 200th episode and this is a "fun-filled frolic" through the lives and loves of the characters during their first nine months (S) (T) (9077024).

7.30 Exclusive (S) (8283531). 8.00 Name That Tune. With host Jools Holland (S) (9053444).

8.30 5 News Including First on Five (S) (T) (9072579). Film The Other Mother (Belhany

Rooney 1995 US). The winning combinetion of television movie and true story that Channel Five is so fond of This one tollows a woman's struggle to find the son taken away from her as a leen mum (87319395)

10.50 La Femme Nikita. When Birkoff panics on a mission, Section One considers killing him. (562-4444).

11.45 Film Full Exposure: the Sex Tapes Scandal (Noel Nossek 1989 USI Very poor Ihnlier about the murder of a high-class prostitute and the theft of her video diary of clients (8147840)

1.35 On Wings of Eagles (6707116) 3.20 Film Money, Women end Guns (Richard Bartlett 1959 US) Taul westem in which a delective searches for the beneficiaries listed in the will of a murdered prospector. (68005086) 4.45 Night Stand (4164222)

5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (SI (6651609)

Anglia
As Carton except: 9.55 Anglia News and
Weather (8595376) 12.20 Anglia News and
Weather (7198-92). 12.55 What's My Line?
(5217005). 3.40 Anglia News and Weather
(6280227). 6.00 The Baldy Man (47) 6.30 Anglia News (27) 11.15 Anglia News and Weather
(74889). 110 Entertainment Now (720767).
2.05 Film: Dead Cert (921970). 3.50 The 3 the
Reading Festival (7476880). 4.45 Sound Bites
(99233-40). 5.00 Coronation Street (80715).
5.30 TM Morning News (16067).
Central

Central Central
As Cariton except: 9.55 Central News (8595376), 12.20 Central News and Weather (7198482), 12.30 ITN News; Weather (7076840), 12.55 The Fashion Police (5217005), 3.40 Central News (6280227), 5.40 News, Weather (171918), 6.00 Trading Places (47), 6.30 Central News and Weather (27), 11.00 ITN News; Weekend Weather (467482), 11.15 Central News, Weather and Travel Update (743699), 3.50 Rockmania (81006574), 4.05 Jobfinder (3569203), 5.20 Asian Eye (1085068), 5.30 ITN Morring News (16067).

HTV Wales

HTV Wales HTV Wales
As Cariton except: 9.55 HTV News
(\$595376) 12.20 HTV News (7198482). 12.55
Onoseurs (2343260). 1.20 Warner Brothers Cartoon (89417753). 3.40 HTV News (6260227).
6.00 Murder, She Wrote (523289). 6.50 Wales
Torighi (252918). 11.15 HTV News (748880). 1.10
Entertainment Now (720-767). 2.05 Film Dead
Cert (921970). 3.50 ITV at the Reading Festival
(7476680). 4.45 Sound Bites (99233406). 5.00
Coronation Street (80715). 5.30 ITN Morning
News (16067).

News (16067). HTV West

As HTV Wales except: 12.20 News; Weather (7196482). 6.50 The West Tonight (252918). 1115 The West Tonight Update (748869). Meridian

Meridian
As Carton except: 9.55 Mendian News and Weather (#3595376). 12.20 Mendian News and Weather (#198482). 12.55 Shortland Street (\$217005). 3.40 Mendian News and Weather (\$260227). 5.40 News: Weather (#71918). 6.00 Mendian Torught (#5289). 1100 News: Weakend Weather (#67482). 1115 Meridian News and Weather (#48489). 110 Entertainment Now (#20-7767). 2.05 Film: Dead Cert (\$21970). 3.50 TV at the Reading Festival (\*476680). 4.45 Sound Bitas (\$9233406). 5.00 The Making of Men in Black: (#0715). 5.30 News (\*16067). Westcountry

Men in Black: (80715). 5.30 News (16067).

Westcountry
As Cariton except: 9.55 Westcountry News (8595376) 12.20 Westcountry News (7198462).

12.27 Muminations (7173173) 12.55 Emmerdale (5217005). 3.40 Westcountry News (6280227).

6.00 Westcountry Live (35289). 11.15 Westcountry News (74869). 1.10 Entertainment Now (7204767). 2.05 Film: Dead Cert (921970). 3.50 ITV at the Reading Festival (7476680). 4.45 Sound Bites (99233406). 5.00 Coronation Street (80715). 5.30 ITM Morning News (16067).

Yorkshire/North East
As Carlton except: 9.55 Regional News and
Weathel (\$525376) 12.20 Regional News and
Weathel (7198482) 12.55 Emmerdale
(\$217005), 3.49 Regional News (\$280227), 6.00 Regional News and Weather (47), 6.30 Ghos Stories with Ian Clayton (27), 11.15 Regional News and Weather (748369), 3.50 Rockmania (7527932), 5.30 ITN Moming News (16067).

S4C
As Channel 4 except: 12.35 Zig and Zag's Big Momng: Coping with (7073753). 1.00 Stot Meithur Ty Rhys a Tomos y Tanc (15598). 1.30 Film The Railway Children (49289). 3.30 Time Team Special (87395). 5.00 SPump: Pendioffobia (492579). 5.15 SPump. Celfagati (5707227). 5.40 Creftyddau'r Byd Wedi Eu Hammeiddio (16250). 6.00 Newyddion 6 (938531). 6.10 Heno (543043). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (418647). 7.25 Crothy - y Flwyddyn (7807111). 8.30 Cem Gwlad (6734). 9.00 Equinox Special (2869). 10.00 Brookside (677937). 10.35 Adam and Joe's Pourmative Years (638111). 11.25 Bill Bailey Live (961173). 5.40 Close

Haciso 1 97.5-98 8MHz PM ) 6.36 Chris Moyles. 9.00 Mark Good-er. 12.30 Mary Anna Hobbs. 3.00 Dave Pearce. 5.55 Newsbeat. 6.00 Peta Tong. - Essential Selection. 9.00 Judge Jules. 11.00 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 One in the Jungle. 400. - en Office Warran. 400 - 6.00 Clive Warren.

Radio 2
(88-90.2MHz FM)
8.00 Richard Alinson. 7.30 Sarah
kernedy 9.30 Alex Lester. 11.30 Jimmy Young. 1.30 Debber Thrower. 3.00
Ed Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00
Flubert Gregg. 7.30 Fnday Night Is
Music Night. 9.15 Dracula. 9.30 Listen to the Band. 10.00 Radio 2's Hollwood Christmas. 10.30 Bob Harts. lywood Crinstmas, 10.30 Bob Harris. 1.00 Charles Nove. 4.00 - 6.00 Late

Radio 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM ) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Morning Collection. 10.00 Musical Encounters. 12.00 Composers of the Weelc Twen icth-Century American Song.

100 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.
200 The BBC Archive. See Choice
4.00 Music Restored.
4.45 Turns of the Century. 5.00 The Changing Orchestra. 6.30 Solfi Resounding. (R) 7.00 Performance on 3. 200 Performance on 3.
2005 Postscript, Literature', Richard
Hoggart, Bizzibeth Jamangs; Richard
Adams, Sir Frank Kamode, Dr Anthony Storr and John Julius Norwich talk about how their tastes in Renature and

about how their tastes in Reneture and poety have changed.

9.25 Haydri and Bartok. The sixth programme in a 14-part series coupling Haydri sonatas with some of Bartok's major piano works. Arme Quefisiec (piano), Haydri Sonata in D, H XVI 24. Bartok' Sonata in Eminor, H XVI 34. Sonata in Eminor, H XVI 34. 10.00 Hear and Now. For the new year a distinctly European edition, introduced by Andrew Spering, Pierre Boulez: a e cummings ist der dichter. Netherlands Chamber Choir, Schoen-berg Ensemble/Feinbert de Leeuw. Jonathan Lloyd: Symphony No 4 BBC SO/Menyn Brabbins, Gerard. Grisey: Les chants de l'amour BBC Singers/Sumon Joly. 1130 Composers of the Week: British

Light Music. (R) 12:30 Kenton's Innovations. (R) 100 - 6.55 Through the Night. Radio 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Prayer for the Day. 6.30 Today. 8.45 Facts and Fancies.



# CHOICE

The BBC Archive (2pm R3)

A slightly more upbeat end to the week than usual, with Geoffrey Smith presenting a selection of jazz performances and interviews from the archives - Duke Ellington (above) playing at Westminster Abbey in 1973, and Alistair Cooke introducing Thirties sessions with Sidney Bechet and Jack Teagarden.

9.05 Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Bon Appetit. 10.00 NEWS: Writers' France. 10.30 Women's Hour. 11.30 The Natural History Programme. 12.00 NEWS, You and Yours. 12.25 The Food Programme. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 NEWS; Classic Serial: War and Peace. 3.00 NEWS; The Alternoon Shift. 4.05 Kaleidoscopa 4.45 Short Story: Rumpole and the Widow Twankey. (R)

5.50 Shipping Forecast.

5.55 Weather. 6.00 Sx O'Clock Naws.

720 Pick of the Week. Chris Serie

6.30 Going Places

7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers.

presents extracts from the past week's BBC ractio and television. 8.05 Any Questions? Nick Clarke is joined in Maidenhead, Berkshire, by penellists Christopher Chope, shadow spokesman for environment, transport and the regions; Pauline Green. Labour MEP and leader of the Socialist Group in the European Parliament; writer and columnst Joan Smith and historian Dr Dawd Starkey.

8.50 Second to None. Four proa.su second to notile. Four pro-grammes in which reporter Sara Park-er encounters people who wait on life's substitute bench until they are called to do service as stand-ins. 2. The Clouds Stand his Declaration. The Floater (Stand In Diplomat)
9.15 Letter from America. Alistair Cooke with another slice of Americana.

9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature. When
Adam Cooper and his leftow male
dancers interpreted "Swan Lake for
the late 20th century, audiences knew
the ballet would nevel be the same
The same coopern Adventures in mencana.

The same company, Adventures in Motion Pictures, led by Matthew

Bourne is current, staging Chocael-te, and has worked on dance from Spatire to "Nutcracker for ten years 9.59 Weathe: 10.00 The World Tonight With Robin

Lusug 10.45 Book at Bednine Playback, By Raymond Chandler, abridged by Robert Doods, read by Angus Macrones, The linal part of Philip Martove s last case (R)

11.00 Year Ending A saturdal look back at 1997 with Sally Grace. Jon Glover, Dave Lamb and Sarah Parl inson 11.25 Tea Junction

11.45 Singular Women (R) 12.30 The Late Book Ghost Stories 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service 5.50 Inshore Forecast 5.55 - 6.00 Shipping Forecast. Radio 4 LW

(1907/2) 10.00 NEWS, An Act of Worship 10.15 - 10.30 On This Day Radio 5 Live 1893, 909FH; MW ) 6.00 Muiray Walker's Grand Prix World 6.30 The Breaklast Proframme 9.00 Nichy Campbell 11.30 The Cettic Tiger 12.00 Midday with Mail 2.00 Football Edra 4.00 Nationwide, 7.00 News Edra 7.30 The

Politican, the Actress and the Bishop 8.00 Alan Green's Sportstell 9.00 Firday Sport 10.00 Paper Talk 11.00 Navs Edia 11.30 The Celtic Tiget. 12.00 After Hours 2.00 Up All Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports Classic FM

(100 0-101 9MHz FM I 8.00 Alan Mann 9.00 Henry Kelly. 100 Request Hour 200 Concerto 3.00 Caroline Bell 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Jane Markham 2.00 Concerto 3.00 -6.00 Sally Peterson Virgin Radio 1215, 1197-1260 Hz MW 105 8MHz FMI 6.00 Nick Abbot 10.00 Robin Banks

2.00 Nicky Home 6.00 Carmin Jones 10.00 Mark Fonesi 2.00 - 6.00 Howard Pearce. **World Service** (1984b LW)
100 Newsdesk, 130 Foul Play 2.00
Newsdesy 2.30 People and Politics,
3.00 World News 3.05 World Business Report 3.30 Science in Action
4.00 Newsdesk 4.15 Sports
People in 4.30 Westerd The World 4.00 Newsdesk 4.15 Sports Boundup, 4.30 Weet end The World Today (LW and SW 5875 only) 4.45 Off the Shell High Spirts (LW and SW 5875kHz only) 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Outbook 5.55 - 6.00 Sportight

# SATELLITE/CABLE

Sky Movies Screen 1
6.00 Agatha Christies Dead Usan's Full
1 (1986 1964631 730 Currage) (1986)
(9821) 9.30 The Public Swill 1977
(987631 1130 Spullard 1995)
(74579 100 Robot and the Seven
Hoods (1974) (90556) 3.00 Batha and
Sundance the Early David 1979
(23820) 5.00 Short Circuit 2 (1988)
(45700) 7.00 Premise Spy Hord
(501961 705 Spy Hard (1966)
(73023501 See Circuit 8.00 Clustees
(1986) (5137206) 10.35 The Deares
(1986) (5136) 10.35 The Deares
(198

Sky Movies Screen 2

Sky Movies Screen 2 600 They Flew Alone 1 13411 500 They Flew Alone 1 13411 500 They Flew Alone 1 13411 500 They Flew Alone 1 1340 Fre Gay Divorce 1 13421 179668 12.00 The Gay Divorce 1 13431 179668 12.00 The War Lover 1 13431 17275 1 4.00 They Flew Alone 1 13431 17275 1 6.00 Not Cop (1996) 18879 1730 UK Top Ten (289) 8.00 Alstlar MacLean's Night Watch (1995) 1475-9 10.00 Seven (1995) 171078211 1210 Learning Las Vegos 113951 1856801 2.05 Donor Las Vegas (1995) (056680) **2.05** Donor Unknown (1995) (469715) **3.40 - 6.00** In the Mouth of Madness (1995)

| 5500/512| Sky Movies Gold | 4.00 Flying Down to Rio\* 115/54 | 540/4289| 6.00 Memories of Me | 11988| (34/4289) 6.00 Big Town (1987) (34/3734) 18.00 Monkey Shires Experiment in Feat (1988) (25/8773) 11.55 Frantic (1988) (85/7260) 1.55 All That Jazz (1979) (1/64/241) 4.00 The (Jatchmater 1988) (55/6319) 5.40 Close

Bravo Bravo 8.00 The A-Team (3312192) 9.00 Tour of Duty (3332956) 10.00 Red Stice Orange (8735395) 10.45 Film: Friday Night Balles. The Rattle (1994) 1799(680) 12.45 Film: Troma - Alter the Pub. Sign Luturuman (NPD (1991) 15425135; 2.45 (saisa) Sinppring Housewives (1007322) 3.00 Tour of Duty (9045241) 4.00 The Mao (1640151) 4.30 The Head (514130) 5.00 - 6.00 The A-Team (9420116). Discovery Channel

A.00 Bush Trucker Man (4515754) 4.30 Fingletine (4517914) 5.00 Best of British (461792) 6.00 Legishos of the filler Shark (5715043) 7.00 Mysterious World (005662) 7.30 Disaster (4573647) 8.00 Jurassica (3425666) 9.00 Forensic Deli-nives (3405805) 10.00 America Exposed (5278640) 10.00 América Euroseu (12 receo 10.30 Medical Detectives (5/06050): 11.00 Weapons of War (0.42766): 12.00 Begriot British (12/0760): 100 Disaster (177,000): 1.30 Beyond 2000 (37,0067): 2.00 Close

# CHOICE

Spy Hard (7.05pm Sky Movies Screen 1) Over the past decade or so, Lesfie Nielsen has proved such a master of slapstick because his face never becrays that he thinks what's happening to him is funny. He brings that skill to this hit-and-miss espionage spoof, as agent Steele, who teams up with glamorous KGB operative (Nicolette Sheridan) to foil an evil genius.

Sky 1
6.00 Morning (Blory (858937) 9.00 Holes (1827) 8.00 Another World (48940) 11.00 Days of Cur Lives (85761 12.00 The Oprah Wintry, Show (84579) 1.00 Getaltot (93227) 2.00 Selty Jess Raphael (92773) 3.00 Jenn; Jones (8735) 5.00 Star Tiel Wintry Show (69735) 5.00 Star Tiel Wintry Show (69735) 5.00 Star Tiel (7743) 6.30 Mamed with Children (2043) 6.30 Mamed with Children (3395) 7.00 The Simpsons (8711) 7.30 Real TV (5579) 8.00 Highlander (27308) 9.00 Walker, Texas Ranger (2009) 12.00 Late Show with David Letterman (93003) 1.00 In the Heat of Letterman (9303). 1.00 In the Heat of the Night (68852) 2.00 - 7.00 Long Play (4496574)

Sky Sports 1 7.00 World Windsuring (87753), 7.30 World Wiesting Federation Superstars (6660) 8.30 Furbol Mundial (93840). (65604) 8.30 Furbol Mundal (93840).
9.00 Racro Devs (64192). 8.30 Aerobics - Or Style (20753) 10.00 Boxing Fights of 97 (123753) 10.00 Boxing Fronts of 97 (123753) 10.00 Soxitish Football Celtic v Rangers (5225173).
4.30 Trans World Sport (51666) 5.30 Gillete World Sport Special (2444).
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Sky Sports 2

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4.00 World Sport Special (76552573).
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(3344), 10.30 Hally (75441), 11.00 Ski Jumping (70111) 1.00 Mighty Man (13192) 2.00 Ice Hockey (430260), 4.30 Football (68918) 6.30 Ice Hockey (23598) 8.30 Breing (72599), 8.30 Fally (10993) 10.00 Bawling (73969) 11.00 Funboard (98569), 12.00 Relly (88222), 12.30 Close, **UK Gold** 

7.00 Nineteenth Hole (2389111), 7.35 Neighbours (5645111), 9.00 Cross-loads (6913173), 8.25 EastEnders icads (6913173), 8.25 EastEnders (3262395), 8.00 The Bit (530805), 9.30 Howards Way (574968), 10.00 Bless This House (7609227), 10.30 The Sullivars (530229), 11.00 Boon (1992537), 12.00 Crossnads (52698827), 12.25 Neighbours (52603008), 12.55 EastEnders (8418640) 1.30 Sykes (7695260), 2.30 Reeping Up Appearances (9787598), 2.50 Last of the Summer Wine (3493802) 2.30 The Bit (4599685) 4.00 Juliet Brave (4546043), 5.05 EastEnders (2775550) 5.40 Bob's Full House (9914260), 6.25 That's Showbustness (7742531), 7.00 Last of the Summer Wine (1308482), 7.40 Are You Being Served? (9392260), 8.20 Citizen Smith (6382937), 8.00 New to Gold Dad's Army (1007024), 8.40 Auf Smin 1993/93/7 8.00 New to Gold Dad's Amy (1007024 8.46 Auf Wiedersehen, Pel (7940/208). 10.45 The Cornic Smip Presents... (9885/289). 12.05 Chelmsford 123 (5870703). **12.35** Live at Jongleurs (5506048) **1.05** The Equalizer (1234357), **1.55** Mi-ami Vice (9561845), **2.45 - 7.00** Shop-ping at Night (73457203).

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3.00 Codd it Be a Miracle?
(84874005) 4.30 Jerry Springer Show
(8214753) 5.00 Rotonda (5644924),
5.50 Cheap Chic (290647), 6.20
Ready, Steady, Cook (7876376), 7.00
Rescue 911 (5416024), 7.30 Mysteries,
Magic and Miracles (7052192), 8.00
Jerry Springer Unout (3930060), 9.00 Jerry Springer Uncut (393/2960) 9.00 Police Story (394/06/17). 11.00 The Sex Zone (3298/192), 12.00 Close Live TV

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Agony 7.00 Oral-a-Doc 715 Nation LIVE
7.30 The Fashion Show 8.00 Agony
8.30 Living Room Legends 9.00 Love
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TV Guide by Peter Conchie

# Time for England to fulfil their greatest expectation

Not so long ago, tours to sidered only a few months ago. Sabina Park in Kingston. Do not Shane Warne that held the the West Indies were no more than exercises in damage limitation, where at times medical insurance appeared more essential than a bat. Times and the laws of cricket have changed however, and Derek Pringle says Michael Atherton's England team, who leave for the Caribbean tomorrow morning, have a realistic chance of Caddick and Dean Headley. returning in April as winners - providing they do not lose either of the

Unless you have unlimited wealth, or some serious fireily in Pakistan. power, the Caribbean is not the the kind of place to live out your dreams. But while many have come to conquer, few, particularly visiting cricket teams, have managed to leave as victors, and since 1968 only Australia and India have managed to bear the West Indies on home soil. It is a formidable record and one since Raymond Illingworth Michael Atherton's side must now overcome, if they are at last to be considered amongst the To accomplish that they

Test-playing élite. With the Ashes out of reach, at least until this time next year, the next few months represent defining moment of Atherton's captaincy. Win, or at least draw, leader can move forward with genuine optimism. Lose heavily, and the inertia caused by yet another failure abroad will surely have to be tackled by a change in direction and leadership, an option Atherton himself con-

first two Tests.

For England's captain, the situation promises to be far more tense than his last visit to these breezy isles four years ago. Then expectations were low, with a young England side and their fledgling captain travelling more in hope than conviction. This time, however, despite Ladbrokes making the West Indies 4-7 favourites (England are 7-2) for the series, the portents are good, despite Darren Gough's late withdrawal, a setback that should at least concentrate the minds of Andy

For one thing, Atherton is far more experienced (he has now captained England a year longer than it took him to attain an honours degree at Cambridge), and secondly, the West Indies are a weaker side, in some disarray after losing heav-

Indeed, when England set off from Gatwick tomorrow bound for a fortnight's acclimatisation in Antigua, Atherton's men will have the best chance in two generations of breaching fortress Caribbean and winning the Wisden Trophy. a prize not seen in England hoisted it aloft at The Oval, almost 30 years ago.

must consistently achieve two things: a first-innings total of at least 280 - Caribbean pitches rarely get better - and an abilan opportunity to become the ity to shackle and frustrate the West Indies batsman with disciplined bowling and ferocious and England and their current fielding. It should help that nine of the 16-strong party toured there last time and know the score, although with some players forewarned is not always necessarily forearmed.

What they must categorically not do is lose the first Test at

that and those two ageing hut experienced warhorses Courtnev Walsh and Curtly Ambrose (35 and 34 respectively) could well rouse themselves for one last hurrah. If they do, it could prove doubly disadvantageous. and instead of the two greener fast howlers, Mervyn Dillon and Franklyn Rose, being put under pressure, they will get a far easier ride in the senior pair's slipstream.

Mind you, however well the pacemen bowl as a group, the recent laws on bouncer limitation mean they are unlikely to rival the menace of the fast bowling juggeroauts of the past. Michael Holding, Andy Roberts, Colin Croft, Joel Garner, Malcolm Marshall and Patrick Patterson were all combined to formidable effect over the years, and with them operating session after session even the most unpromising situations were retrieved by their confidence-rupturing quick

England have several batsmen who play fast bowling well. Atherton has long found his best against the West Indies, and with Alec Stewart set to bat instead of keep - at least initially - he will have an opening partner capable of taking anything wayward with the new ball apart. Graham Thorpe, too, pulls and cuts well, and the home side may well have to reson to playing a leg-spinner, with Rawl Lewis the

leading contender. These days, with most pitches deader than they used to be, the bowlers need longer to bowl sides out, which means the batsmen tend to have to score their runs at a fair old lick, and why England's bowlers must be iron-willed in sticking to their length and line.

When Australia won in the Caribbean in April 1995, it was

key - Caribbean grounds are often too small for spinners to exert pressure - but the unstinting efforts of Australia's then second-choice seamers. Glenn Mc-Grath. Paul Reiffel and Brendon Julian, were all thrown in at the deep end following injuries to Craig McDermott and Damien Fleming, a situation coincidentally echoed by Gough's withdrawal a few days ago.

England can do likewise, providing Brian Lara does not take the game away from them as he did in the first two Tests four years ago when his pair of audacious run-a-ball centuries set up victory. Two down after two, and with the catastrophe of being bowled out for 46 in Trinidad to follow will surely have buroed itself too deep into Atherton's memory to be repeated.

Currently troubled by what he sees as a plot to prevent him becoming captain. Lara is the one batsman on either side capable of total domination and of shaping the series. But while recent series have shown him to be fallible, his Test average against England is currently 91.94 - over twice as much as it is against other teams at 40.79. Pity the man who spills him in the gully early on.

Ironically, many believe - the selectors amongst them - that Lara would make a hetter captain than Walsh. Certainly Lara. captain of Trinidad since he was 20, hankers after the post and many feel if he were to be be appointed that his innate confidence might rub off on the rest of the team.

That the West Indies Cricket Board took the contrary view before the debacle in Pakistan has hought about much ferment, and the old inter-island rivalries, patched over during the glory days, are once again beginning to simmer, with Jamaica, home to the board's chairman, Pat Rousseau, as well as the current skipper, Walsh, attracting most of the

Clearly not everyone can be kept happy and aithough Waish, ever the consummate professional, has stated he will play under any captain, the best way out might be to appoint someone like Jimmy Adams, although he too hails from Jamaica.

It is a rum old row and whichever way you look at it victory could well be boosted by what looks to be an unavoidably controversial decision.



Chris Silverwood in the nets yesterday during his last session with the England A team at the Gymkhana Cricket Club in Nairobi Photograph: Graham Chadwick/Allsport

#### **ENGLAND** SQUAD FOR WEST INDIES TOUR

Mike Atherton (Lancs)

(captain) Age 29, Tests 73. Nasser Hussain (Essex) (vice-captain) Age 29, Tests 23. Mark Butcher (Surrey) Age 25, Tests 5. Andy Caddick (Somerset) Age 28, Tests 16. Ashley Cowan (Essex) Age 22, Tests 0. John Crawley (Lancs) Age 25, Tests 22. Robert Croft (Glamorgan) Age 27, Tests 10. Angus Fraser (Middlesex) Age 32, Tests 32. Dean Headley (Kent) Age 27, Tests 3. Adam Hollicake (Surrey) Age 26, Tests 2. Mark Ramprakash (Middx) Age 28, Tests 20. Chris Silverwood (Yorks) Age 22, Tests 1. Jack Russell (Gloucs) Age 34, Tests 49. Alec Stewart (Surrey) Age 34, Tests 69. Graham Thorpe (Surrey) Age 28, Tests 43. Phil Tufnell (Middlesex) Age 31, Tests 28.

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TOUR ITINERARY 16-19 January v Jamaica Under-23 (Four days); 22-25 January v Jamaica (Four days); 29 January-2 February First Test (Jamaica); 6-9 February Four-day match (Trinidad and Tobago); 13-17 February Second Test (Trinidad and Tobago); 21-23 February Three-day match (Guyana); 27 February-3 March Third Test (Guyana); 7-9 March Three-day match (Barbados): 12-16 March Fourth Test (Barbados); 20-24 March Fifth Test (Antigua); 27 March v Vice Chancellor's XI (Barbados) (One day); 29 March First one-day international (Barbados); 1 April Second oneday international (St Lucia): 4 April Third one-day international (St Vincent); 5 April Fourth one-day international (St Vincent); 8 April Fifth one day international (Trinidad and Tobago).

# THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 3497. Friday 2 Japuar **ACROSS** 

Stone rotates unexpectedly

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11 Town girl's manner of

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speaking (9)
12 Second supplier of tickets is reliable (5)

13 Jerks line into points (5) 15 Involve child with story

about Tom? (9)
17 Player really paid for stir-ring up a rush team (9) 19 Type of leather affected by sound (5) 22 River runs hard in Spain

Once again started everything in a rush (7) Argument - one with a lec-Argument – one with a lecturer about the inter-stellar 20 Stirring, revolutionary

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26 Piece from the French, out

Snack for cricket teams (7)

Questionable American

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DOWN

ent in poet I had translated

5 Cheek, lip or neck? (5)

Ace scout, trained in camp ing skills initially (sound study) (9) Philosopher's journey over

Australia with Australian One almost caught girl (7)

14 Do some umpiring across part of America (9) Penny salary is inadequate? There'll be no shift in it (9)

17 Possibly mass start to rally

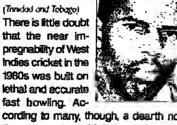
18 Bill, I suggest, is full of fat

book I have (7) 21 "No longer with us" incorporated in revised text (7) Goddess and Queen appar- 23 Group is setting up locations (5) 24 Hose supplies no end of squirt (5)

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DEREK PRINGLE'S FOUR TO FOLLOW THIS WINTER

Dillon



cording to many, though, a dearth now threatens, or it would do had howlers like Franklyn Rose and Mervyn Dillon not happened along. But while both have pace, it is the 23-year old Dillon who really looks like one out of the old mould.

As you would expect from someone measuring 6ft 6in tall, he extracts plenty of bounce with his seamers and cutters. He is aggressive, too, and while others taltered on the bare pitch in Karachi, where West Indies lost their third Test in a row. Dillon took 5 for 111.

England, too, received a taster in Sharjah, where he bounced out Adam Hollioake and Nick Knight. Given a freer reign in the Tests, we may once again hear the traditional thud of Carlobean "chin music". England's batsmen have been warned.

Sherwin Campbell Having missed out learning from batting at the other end to the master Desmond Haynes,

Campball has set about emulating him. Once a carefree strokeplayer, the 27year-old opener is now content simply to anchor the innings and bat all day. According to his home crowd at the Kensington Oval, wild donkeys are easier to

remove once he is set at the crease. It is just as well, without his long gritty innings - he faced 690 balls in the threematch series as compared to the next highest of 280 by the wicketkeeper David Williams - West Indies would have lost even more heavily in Pakistan.

He does have weaknesses and a propensity to keep his weight on the back foot make him vulnerable to the swinging ball early on. He is also a compulsive hooker, which aithough providing a genuine line of enquiry for bowlers, can also prove expensive on the Caribbean's tiny grounds.

Headley (Fent) Announced himself during the summer

against Australia with a flurry of wickets at Old Trafford, where he showed a natural aptitude for

dismissing left-handers; a useful knack as the West Indies may use as many as four in the top six.

A skiddy bowier, Headley may well take the new ball, although not in Jamaica, where he is already apprehensive over the reception that will greet him as he returns to the island that spawned his famous grandfather, George, as well as his father, Ron. England cannot afford nervous starters in what will undenlably be the most important Test of the series.

Nearly 28, Headley has much catching up to do if he is to have a fulfilling Test career. A fine fielder, a wandering mind and a fragile body are all that hold him back. As long as he stays fit and keeps his no-ball count to a minimum, any cheap libes from the Sabina Park crowd will soon be forgotten.

Adam Hollioake (Surrey)

Passed over as one-day captain after leading England to victory in Sharjah, will only have made Adam Hollionke doubly de-

termined to carve a role for himself at Test

A batsman with more bottle than finesse - not a bad way round for things to be when facing the West Indies - it may be Hollioaka's bowling that helps clinch him the highly contested No 6 spot.

Unless England's bowling is given variety by making Alec Stewart keep wicket (not in plan A apparently), Hollioake's medium-pace mix of swing, cutters and slower bails may prove the perfect foil with which to tempt and taunt the West Indian strokeplayers into injudicious risk-

A natural optimist, he wants to be England's answer to Steve Waugh. If he performs half as well, his team will at last have an all-rounder worthy of a long-term place.



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